BERSERK

# BERSERK

23

**三浦建太郎 KENTARO MIURA**

# ベルセルク

# BERSERK ㉓

BY

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**三浦建太郎**

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三浦建太郎

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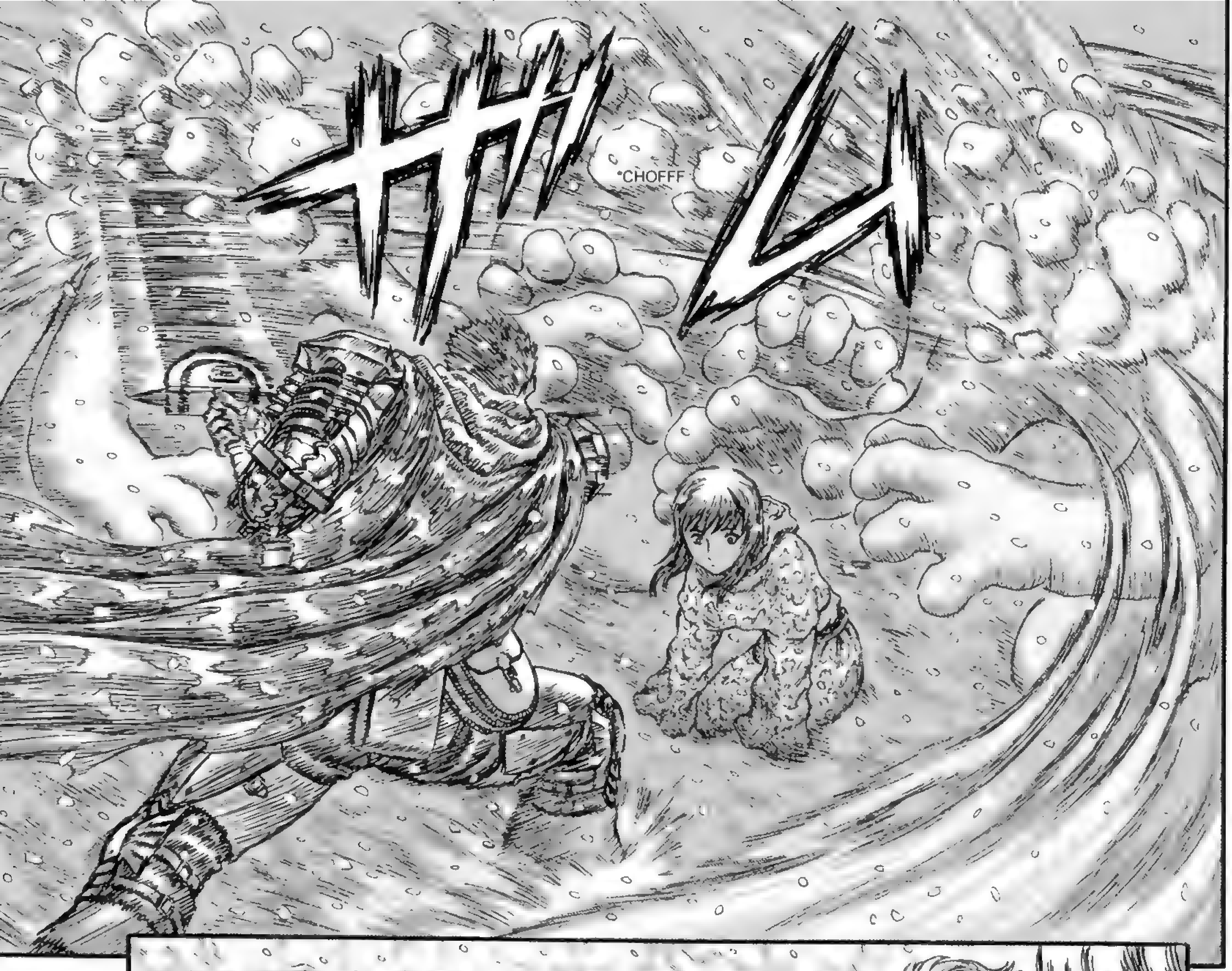
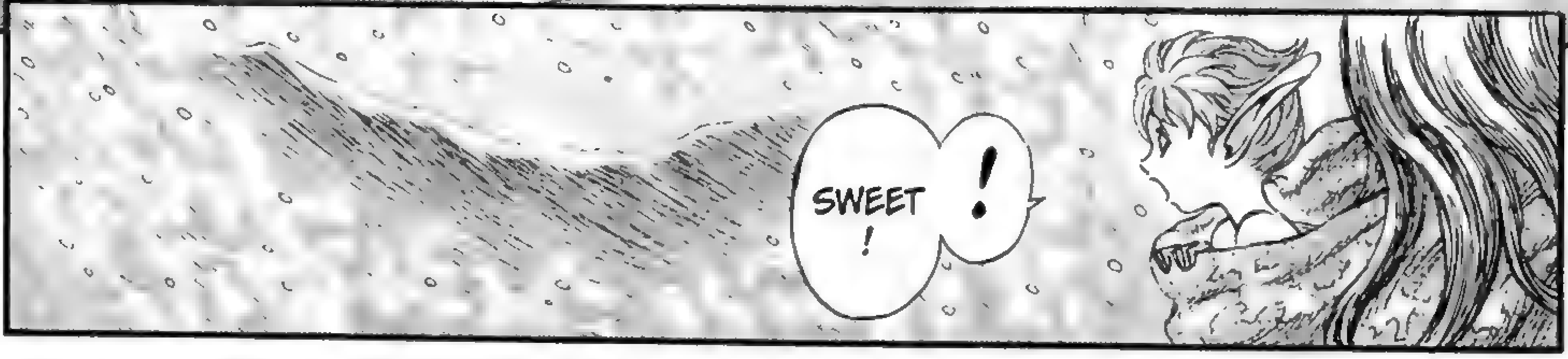
# WINTER JOURNEY, PART 1

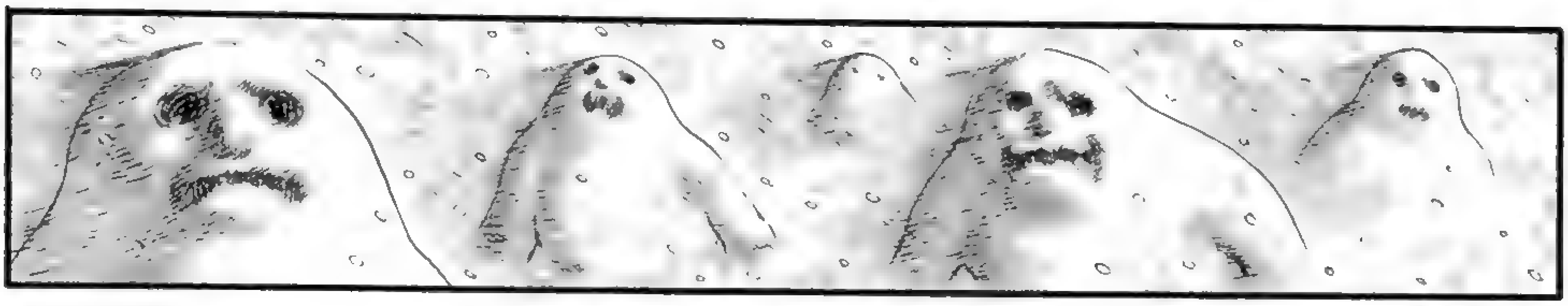
# 冬の旅路①

ビュウウウウウウウ
*HYEWWWWWW
ヒュ
*FX: HYNN
フッ
*FX: FMM
ボコ ボコ
*FX: BLOK BLOK

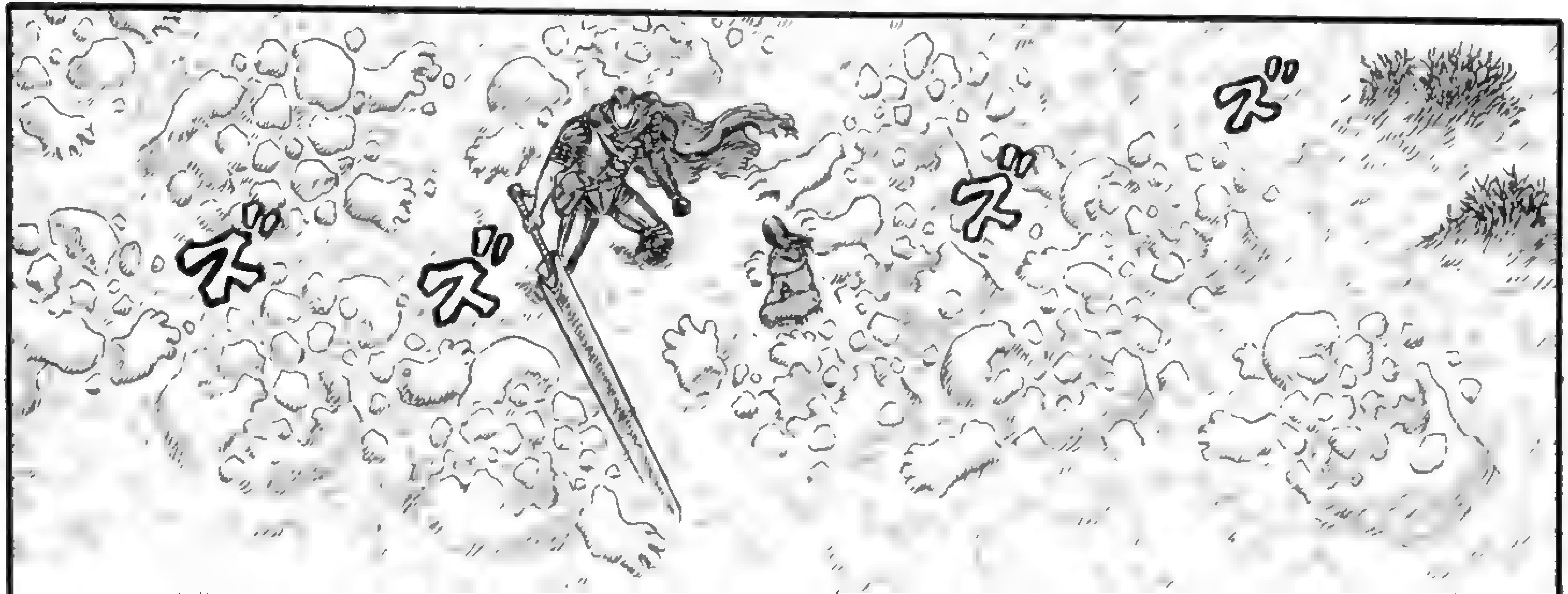
*HOHLLLL
ゴヴ
ウウウ
AGYA!
THERE'S NO END TO 'EM! NOT LIKE THAT'S NEW!
バッ
!
*FX. WHIP
CASCA?!
ペタ。
*FX: PLOP
*FX: MOGHHH
モ゛ー…
*FX: MOOOO
ムー…



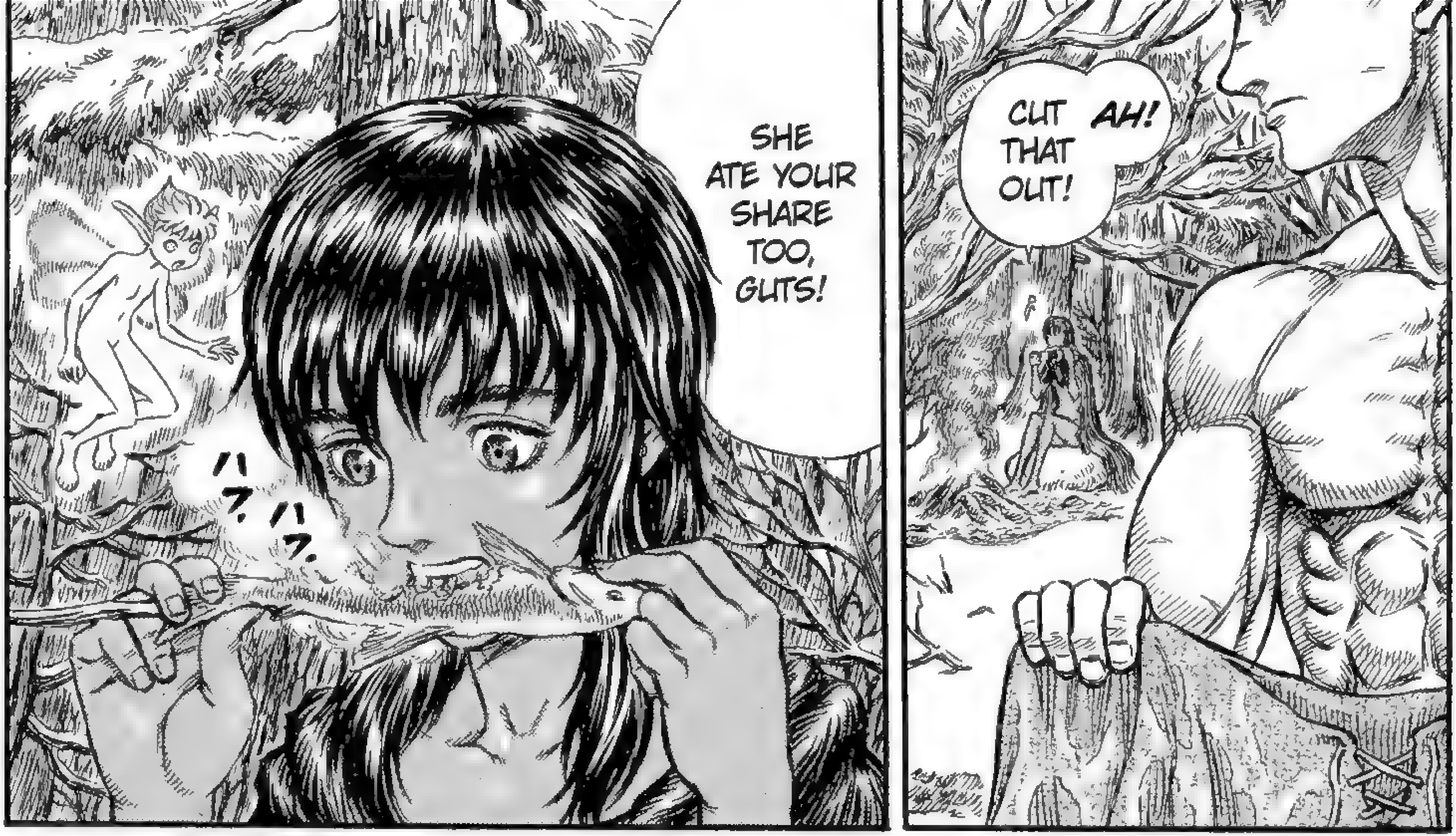




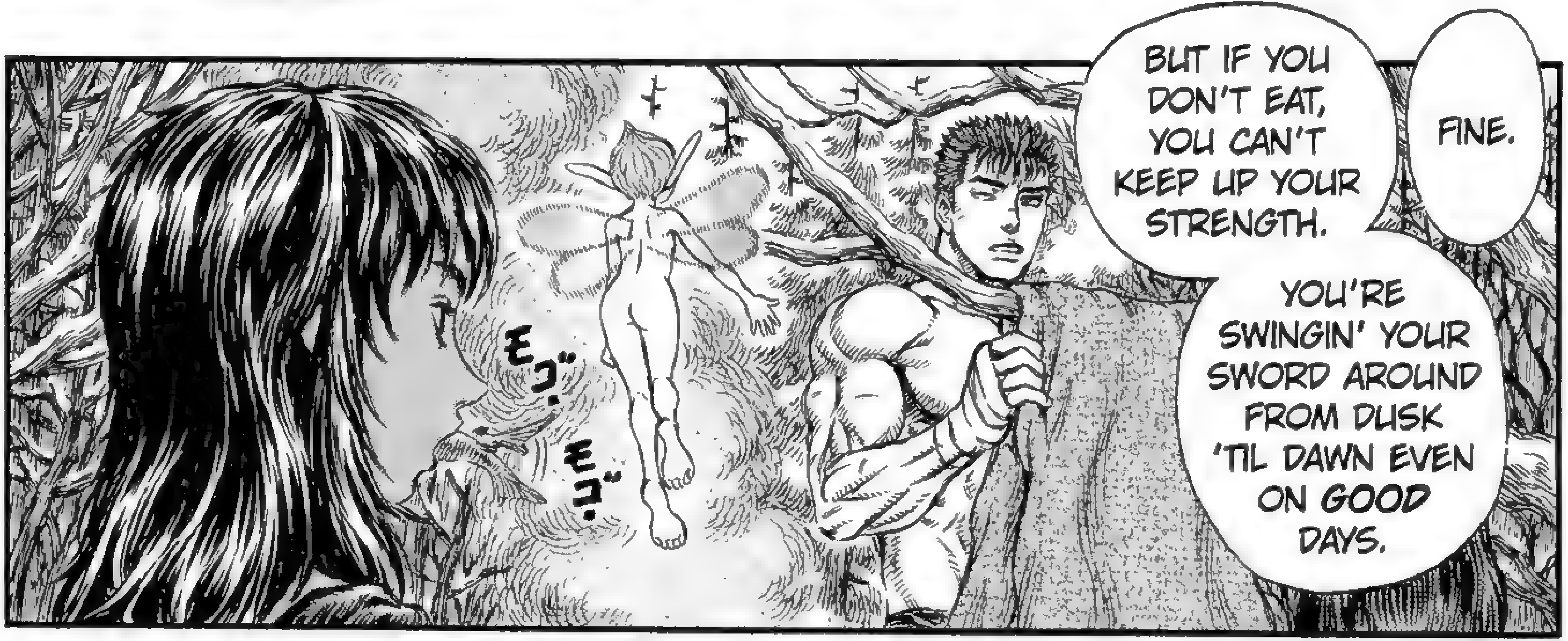
*FX: ZHF ZHF ZHF ZHF



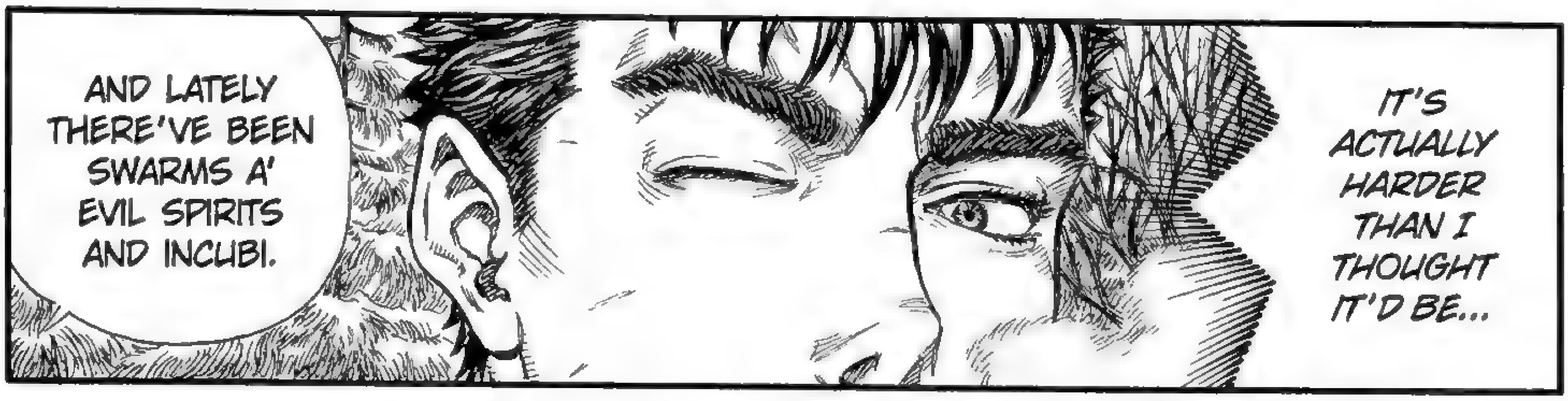
*HAHH
*HAHH
*CHF
WHAT WAS *THAT* ALL ABOUT...?
*FX: SSSSS
IT'S COLD, *HUH?* I'M JUST DANDY, THOUGH.
*BLASH BLASH
*WHEW
*FLAP

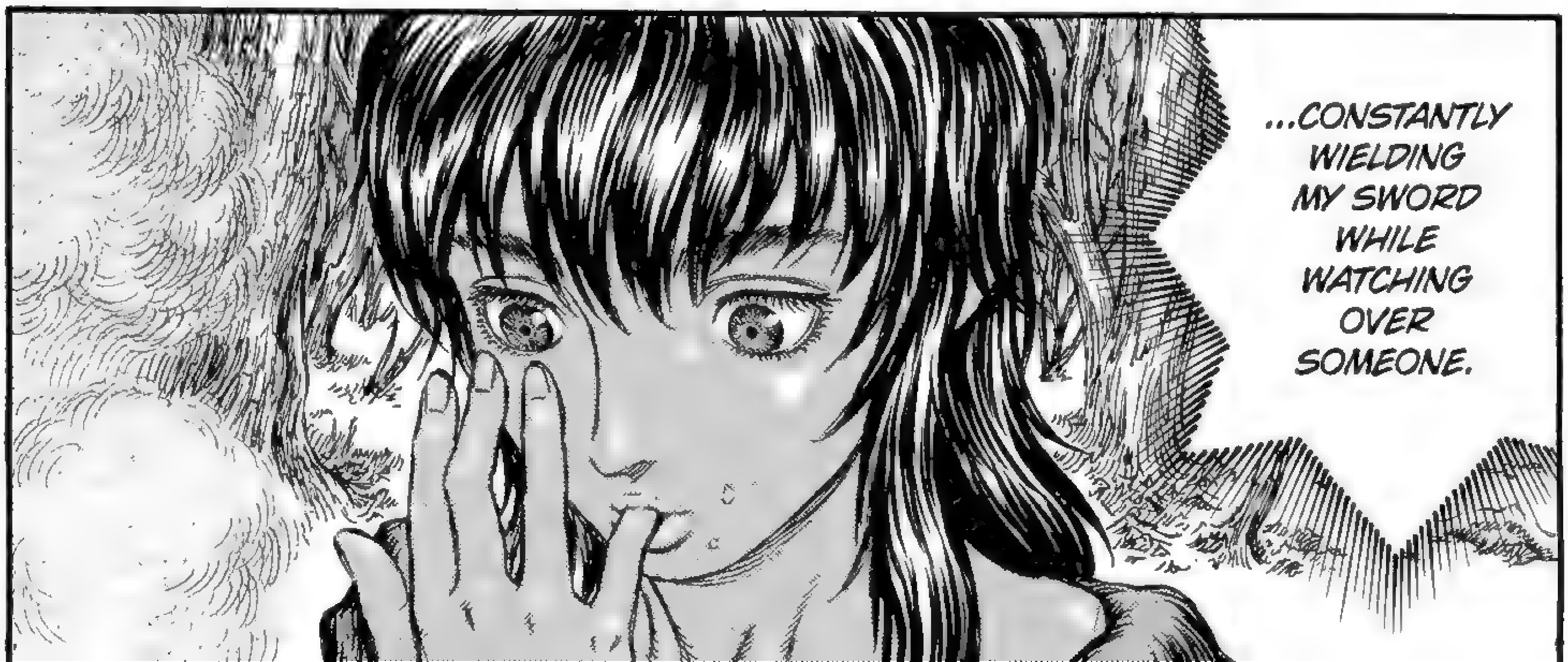

AH!
CUT THAT OUT!
SHE ATE YOUR SHARE TOO, GUTS!
ハフ ハフ

*FX: OMP OMP


FINE.
BUT IF YOU DON'T EAT, YOU CAN'T KEEP UP YOUR STRENGTH.
YOU'RE SWINGIN' YOUR SWORD AROUND FROM DUSK 'TIL DAWN EVEN ON GOOD DAYS.
モゴ モゴ

*FX: MNCH MNCH


IT'S ACTUALLY HARDER THAN I THOUGHT IT'D BE...
AND LATELY THERE'VE BEEN SWARMS A' EVIL SPIRITS AND INCUBI.


...CONSTANTLY WIELDING MY SWORD WHILE WATCHING OVER SOMEONE.

HERE.
YOU'LL BE COLD WITH THIS OPEN.
BUT...
...WHAT'S EVEN HARDER THAN THAT...
*WIPE

...IS HOW THIS SHADOW OF WHO YOU USED TO BE KEEPS REMINDING ME...
...OF ALL THOSE DAYS AND HOW THEY WERE SHATTERED.

NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE GUTS THIS HEROIC...
QUITE SHOCKIN'.
BUT I WONDER IF HE'S...
...SPREADING HIMSELF TOO THIN?
PUCK.
WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS YOUR HOMELAND?
WELL, Y'SEE ...
...IT'S A **GREAT** PLACE.
ELFHELM.
A UTOPIA FLOATIN' IN THE SEA FAR TO THE WEST.
EVERYWHERE FLOWERS BLOOMIN', BIRDS SINGIN', ELVES DANCIN'...
AN ELFIN PARADISE OF ETERNAL SPRING, OPEN YEAR ROUND.
OH! MY BEAUTIFUL HOMELAND!
THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I MEANT.
IF IT'S SO DREAMY, WHY'D YOU EVER LEAVE?
I GOT BORED.
......

WHO KNEW...
...I'D EVER BE RELYING ON HIM?
?
RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO CLING TO ANY HOPE, HOWEVER SMALL.
HWAA!
バッサッ
*FX: FWUMP
YOU SHOULD SLEEP A LITTLE TOO, GUTS, BEFORE NIGHT FALLS.
DON'T WORRY, I'LL PIPE UP IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.
*FX: POK
THANKS, I THINK I WILL.
I'M COUNTIN' ON YOU.
ROGER!
ビシッ
*FWIT
パキ

DO YOU SLEEP?
DO YOU DREAM?
*HAH
*HAH
DREAMS OF HIM?
WHY IS IT?
WHY DON'T YOU CHASE HIM?
YOU FINALLY MET WITH HIM.
JUST A LITTLE FARTHER.
LET'S GO TO HIM.
LET'S GIVE HIM...
...A HEAP OF RAW IRON.
BECAUSE OF THIS WOMAN HERE?
LEAVE HER BE.
IS SHE THAT PRECIOUS?

*HAH HAH
MORE SO THAN *GRIFFITH*?
SHE'S NO LONGER THE WARRIOR YOU KNEW.
JUST A HUSK.
SOMEONE ELSE.
AND YET SHE'S PRECIOUS?
YOU CAN CONTINUE THINKING OF HER?
OF THIS WOMAN, EVEN NOW?
OF HER *ALONE*?
IS SHE NOT PRECIOUS ONLY BECAUSE SHE'S...
...THE WOUND GRIFFITH LEFT. BECAUSE YOU WANT TO KEEP FEELING THAT PAIN HE CAUSED YOU?

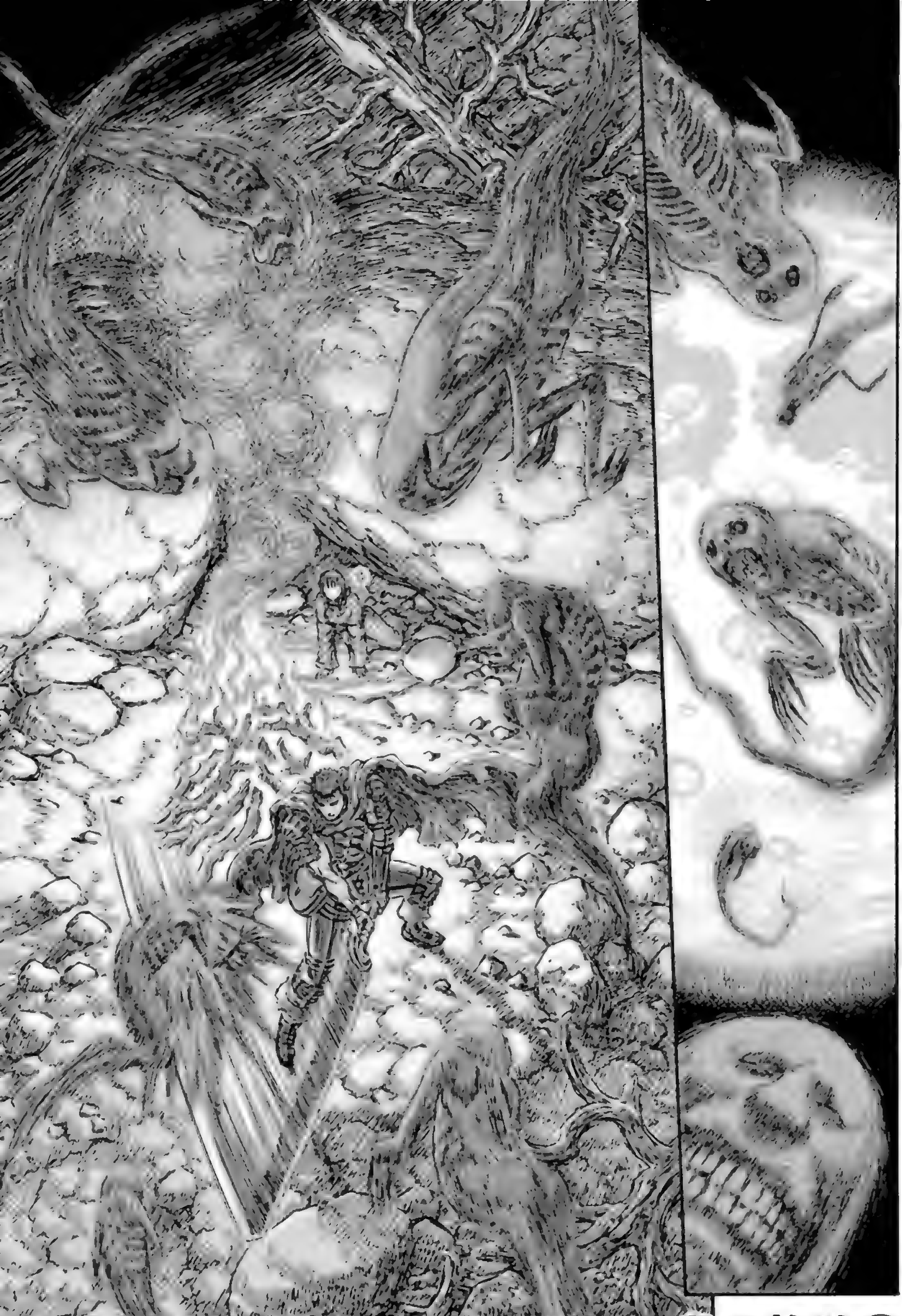
SHE'S A SACRIFICE SO YOU CAN CONTINUE LONGING FOR GRIFFITH.
GO AWAY...
IF SHE'S A SACRIFICE, THERE'S A BETTER USE FOR HER.

IF YOU JUST DO THIS...
...YOU'LL GET CLOSER AND CLOSER TO GRIFFITH.
STOP IIIT!
YOU...
...DESIRE THIS.

*DOSH
*FX: FLING
*FX: SSSSSS
シュウウウ…
*FX: OOO...
*SLRRR
ズル…
*THNK
*THNK
*FX BLORP TWITCH TWITCH
ドロ…

*HAHHH
*HAHHH
WHEN DID THE CLOUDS ROLL IN?
*FX: TWITCH TWITCH
ぴく ぴく
IT WAS DUMB TO TRUST HIM.
ぶん ぶん
*FX: VNN VNN
..........
*FX: HHHHH
フゥゥゥ…
*FX: TOUCH
ス

AS IF THAT...
...COULD EVER BE.
AS IF...
WINTER JOURNEY (1): END



# WINTER JOURNEY, PART 2

# 冬の旅路②

*SHAP
*BISSH
KICK SOME BUTT!
DAWN'S AROUND THE CORNER!
ooo
Y'KNOW, GUTS' BEEN A LITTLE ODD LATELY. LIKE HE'S MORE SERIOUS, KINDA...

YOU DESIRE THIS.
THAT'S CRAZY!!
チチ!
AUU!
!
トトト..
C'MON, CASCA!!
GOIN' OUT THERE'S DANGEROUS ...!!

*FX: TP TP TP

*FX: CHRR

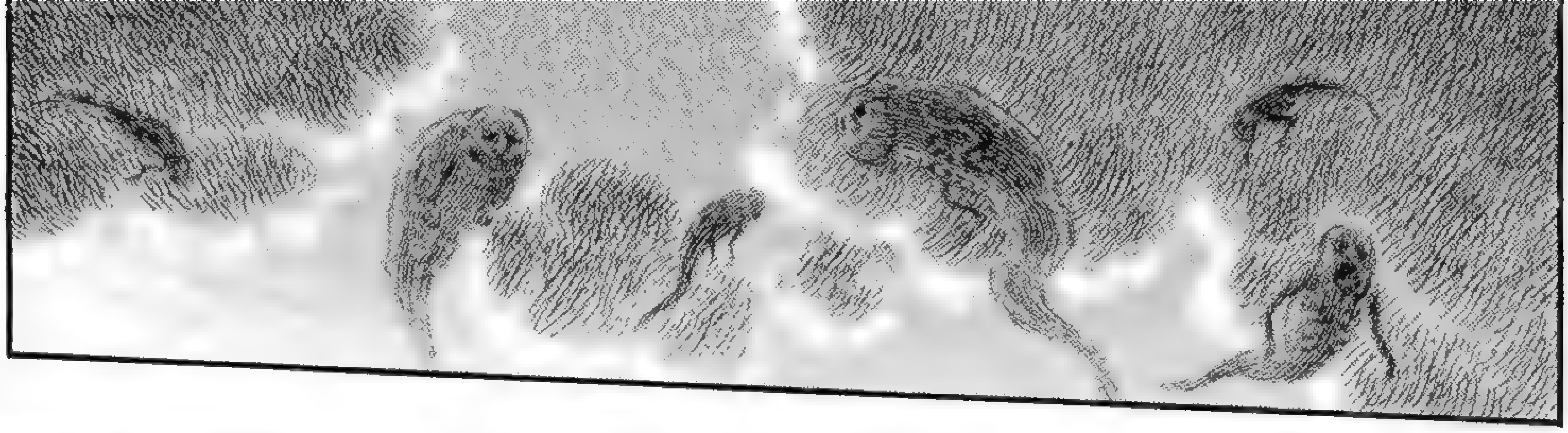
OWAHHH!
オオオオ
*OHHHH
*ZHHOP
GUTS ...!!
*FX: CHAK CHAK
GH...
ガキ、ガキ、
GAH!

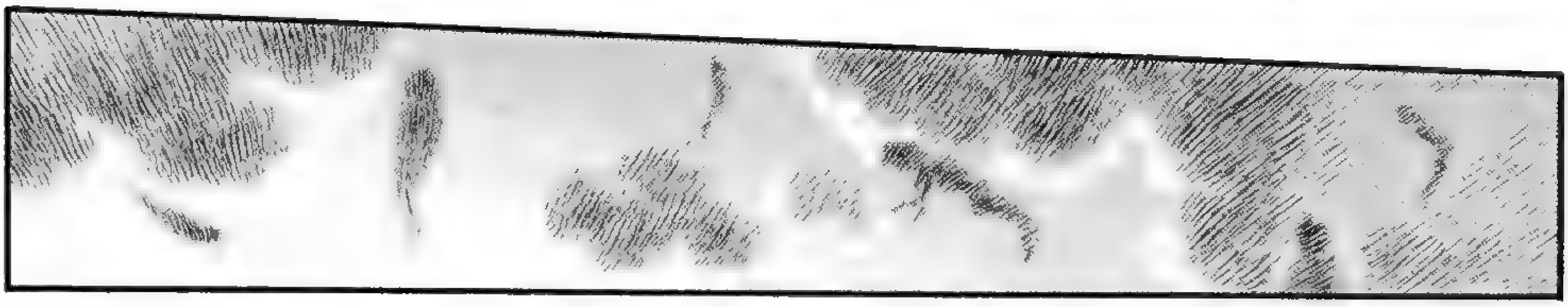
ゴオオオ
ガッ
*GRAB

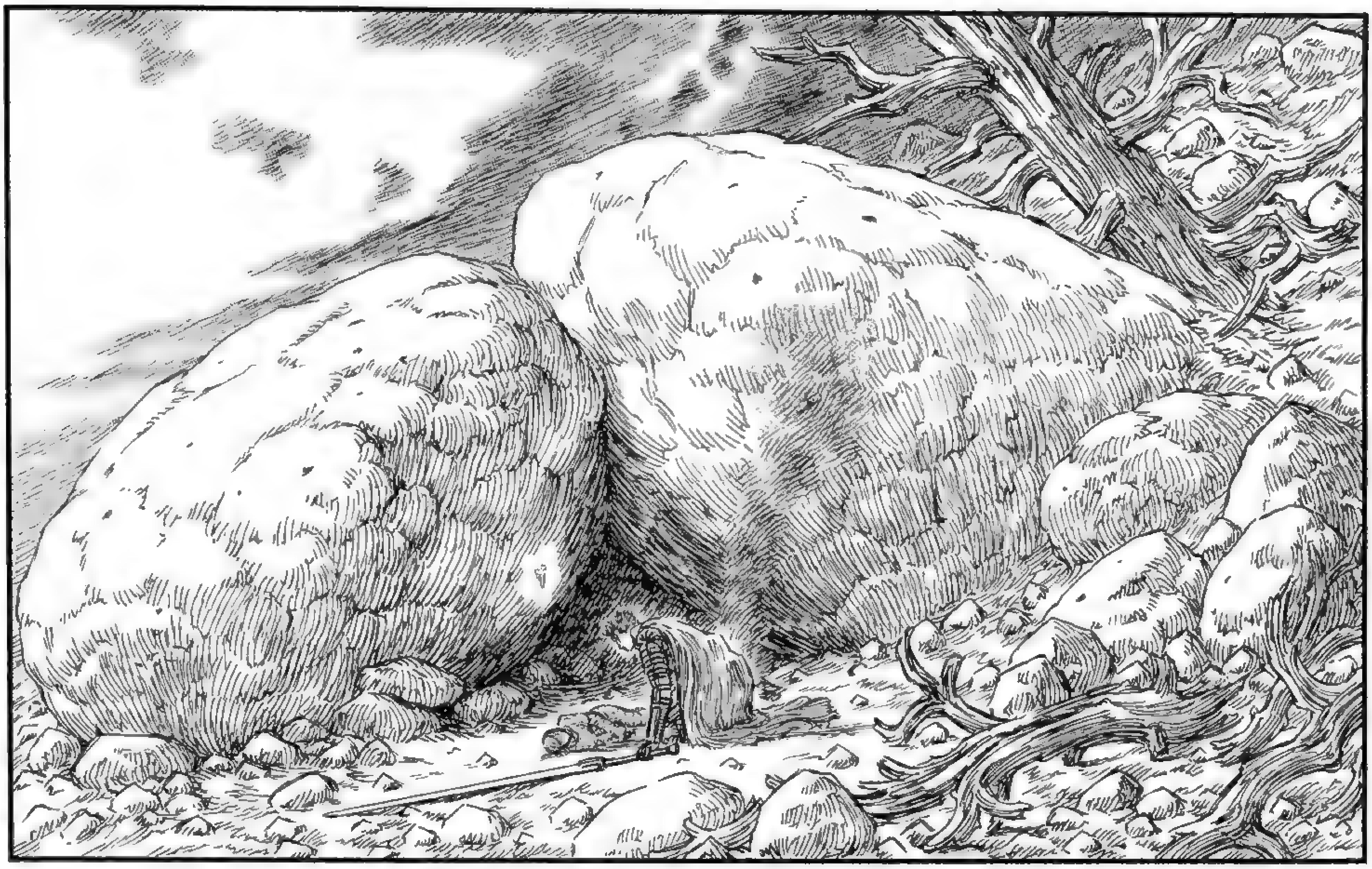
*FX: ROHHHH

SQUEEZE
......!
GUTS!!

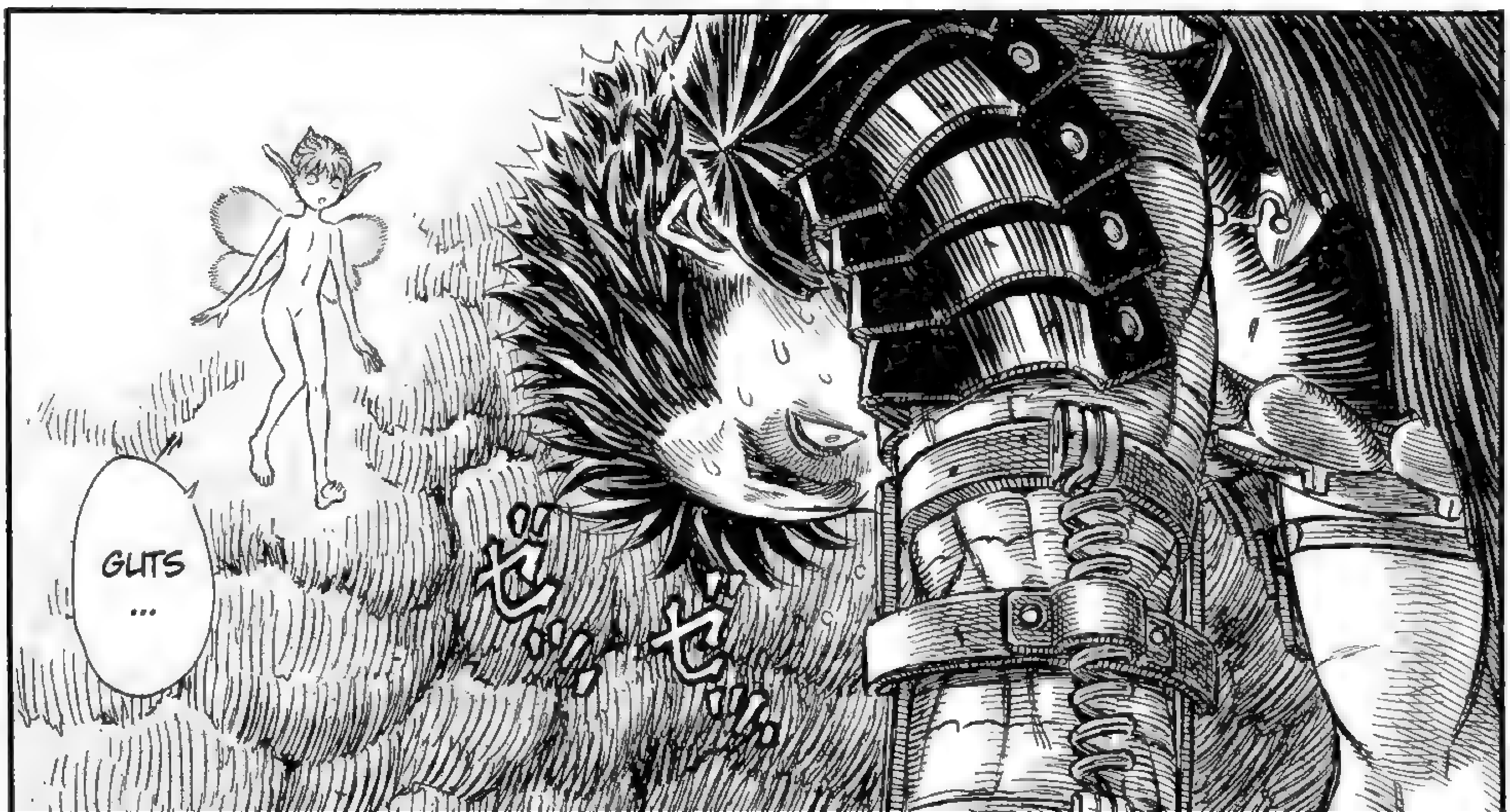
...O...
...P...
グッ
*FX: CLENCH
STOP IIIIT!!!...
ハオオ
*BAOOOOH







*FX: HEHH HEHH



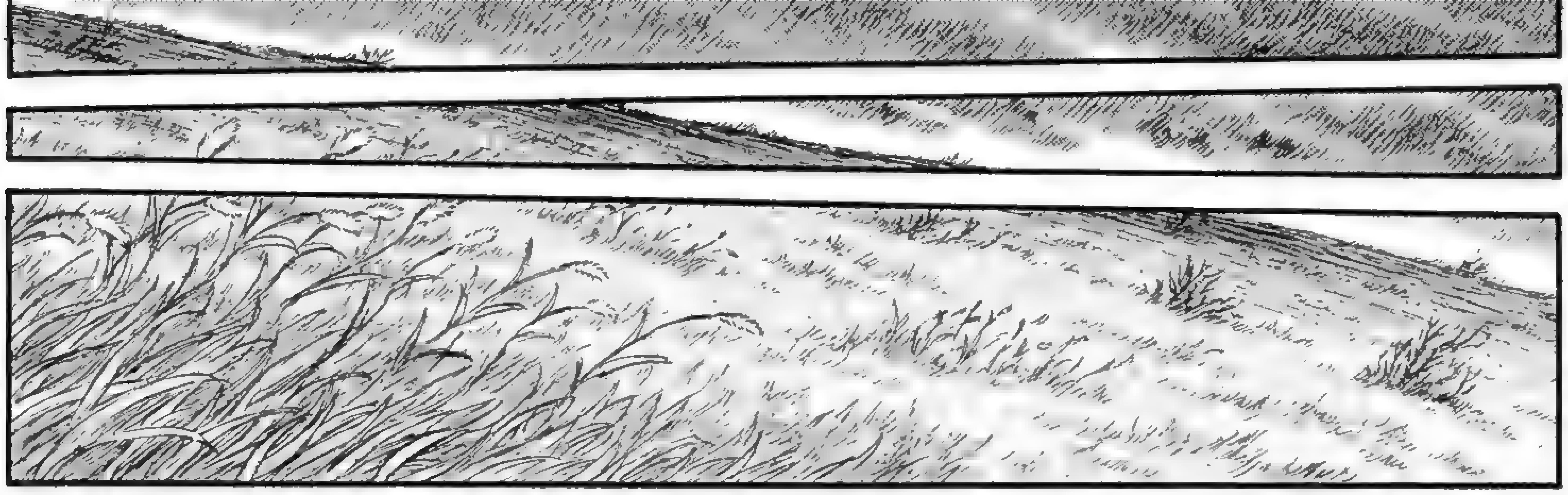
HEY ...!!
CASCA !!
OO...
ゴホ。。
?!
OH, GOOD...

*FX: KOFF

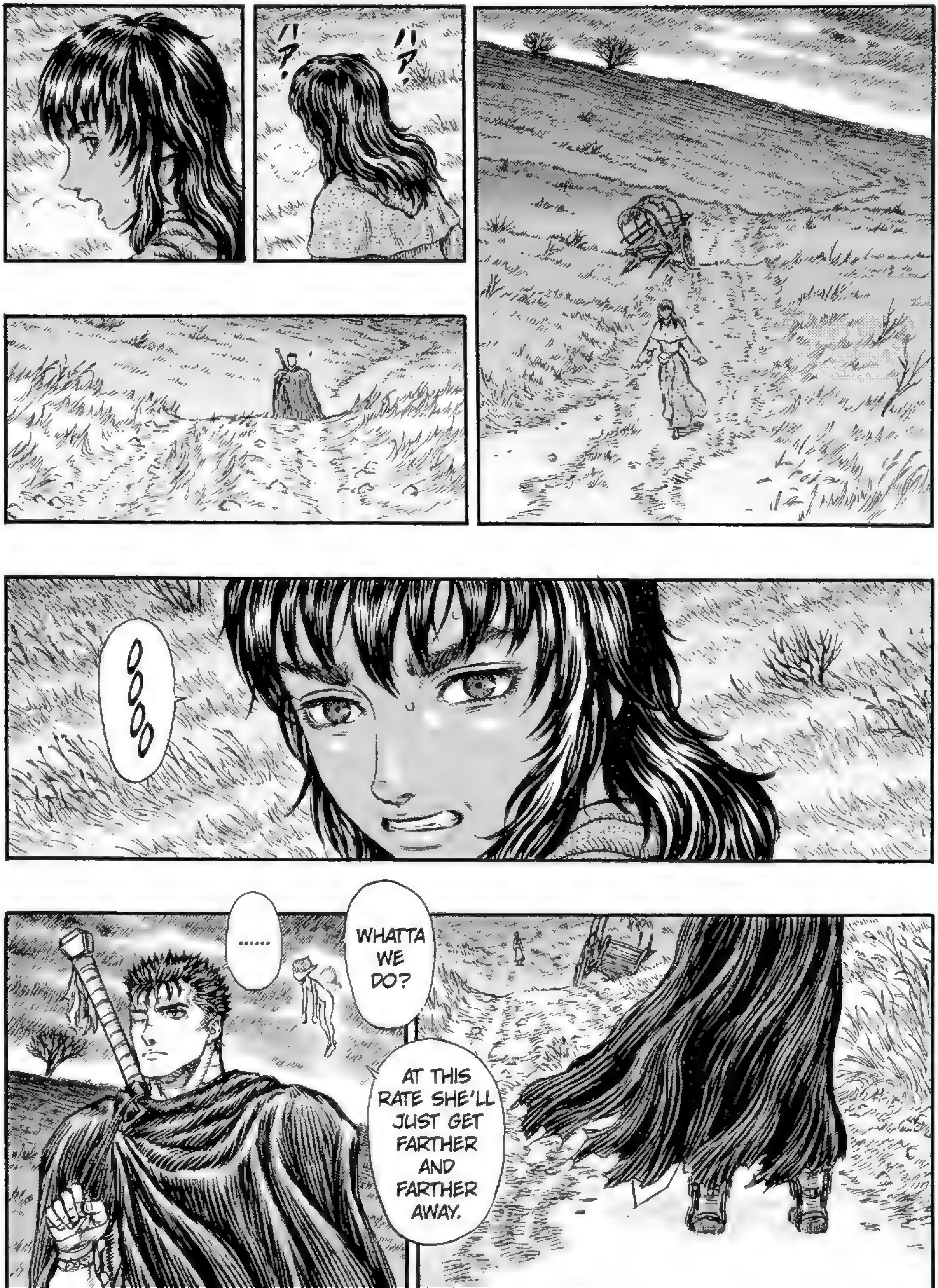
*FX: WHEW

AHHHHH!!
CASCA ...
...!!

タッ
*BOLT
HEY...!
AGEE!
*FX: BITE
CASCA...!!
UWAHH!!!
......!!



*FX: HAHH HAHH


ハァ
ハァ
OOOO
WHATTA WE DO?
......
AT THIS RATE SHE'LL JUST GET FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY.

HERE SHE'S STUCK SO CLOSE TO YOU, SENSIN' YOU'VE BEEN PROTECTIN' HER SINCE THE TOWER OF CONVICTION ...
...AND NOW IT'S ALL RUINED.
OH. SORRY.
DON'TCHA WORRY OVER IT!
THAT WAS SOMETHIN' THE EVIL SPIRITS COMPELLED YOU TO DO!
CAN I...
...REALLY TELL MYSELF THAT?
DESIRE THIS.
THAT IT WASN'T ME?

THIS'S BAD, THOUGH.
IF IT'S LIKE THIS AT SUNSET...
......
OOAUU!
ギュ
GEEE!
NOW COME ON.
WHOA, HOLD ON!
YOU'RE TAKIN' THIS *TOO* FAR!
EVEN CONSIDERIN'...
IT'S *PITIFUL!*
うぎぎ…
THIS'S NO BETTER 'N THAT WITCH HUNT!

*FX: TUG

*FX: HNNG

GUAWA!
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT...
*FX: AUU
...BUT SHE'LL HATE YOU...
...EVEN MORE.
アウゥ
RIGHT NOW, PROTECTING HER AND MOVING QUICKLY ARE MOST IMPORTANT.
NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.
......
I WAS PREPARED.

I KNEW A JOURNEY WOULDN'T BE EASY...
...WITH THE TWO OF US BRANDED.
IT'S NOT JUST THE RIGORS OF TRAVEL.
IT GOES FAR BEYOND A PERSONAL WAR...
...FIGHTING TO PROTECT SOMEONE...

AND IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT COMPLETELY PROTECTING CASCA...
...BECAUSE MY DEATH WILL RESULT IN HER DEATH.
I'M USED TO FIGHTING TO SURVIVE.
BUT WHAT GROWS WORSE DAILY...
...IS THE PRESSURE NOT TO DIE.
HAVE I EVER BEFORE...
...WIELDED A SWORD SO HEAVY?

I WAS PREPARED.
*WHAP
BUT STILL...
...AMONGST EVERYTHING...

...PERHAPS I WAS HOLDING ONTO SOME INDULGENT... **HOPE...**
IF ONLY WE COULD CONNECT SOMEHOW.
ウウー
*OOOOO
SO FAR AWAY...

## SCATTERED TIME

## こぼれた時間

# BERSERK

WHEN WAS THAT...?
THE LAST TIME SHE SMILED?
FATIGUE IS...
...RUINING ME.
I CAN BARELY PROTECT HER...
...AS SHE LOOKS AT ME WITH DISTRUST AND ANIMOSITY...
...AND MY LICENSE TO TOUCH HER WITH TENDERNESS EXPIRES.
MY DISTRUST OF MYSELF...
...SPURS ME ON.
I SWORE I'D STAY NEAR HER.
NOT ABANDON HER.

BUT...
...SHE GROWS DISTANT...

OH, NO...!!
WE GOT TROUBLE, GUTS!!
WAKE UP!!
I ONLY DOZED OFF FOR A BIT...
IF WE DON'T HURRY THE SUN'LL SET! LET'S SPLIT UP THE SEARCH!

CASCA... !!
AH, HELL, EVERY VILLAGE 'N' TOWN AROUND HERE'S EMPTY.
NOT A BIT OF FOOD LEFT. TALK ABOUT BAD BUSINESS.

HEY, DON'TCHA THINK IT'S HIGH TIME FOR US, TOO? NOT BEIN' CHASED BY OFFICIALS IS GREAT, BUT IF WE COME ACROSS THE KUSHAN, WE'S FINISHED.
GOT THAT RIGHT.
モグ モグ
ガサ ゴソ
I DON'T ASK MUCH. LET'S JUST GO SOMEPLACE WHERE THERE'S FOOD 'N' WOMEN.
ザッ
HEY, WHO'S THERE ?!
モグッ

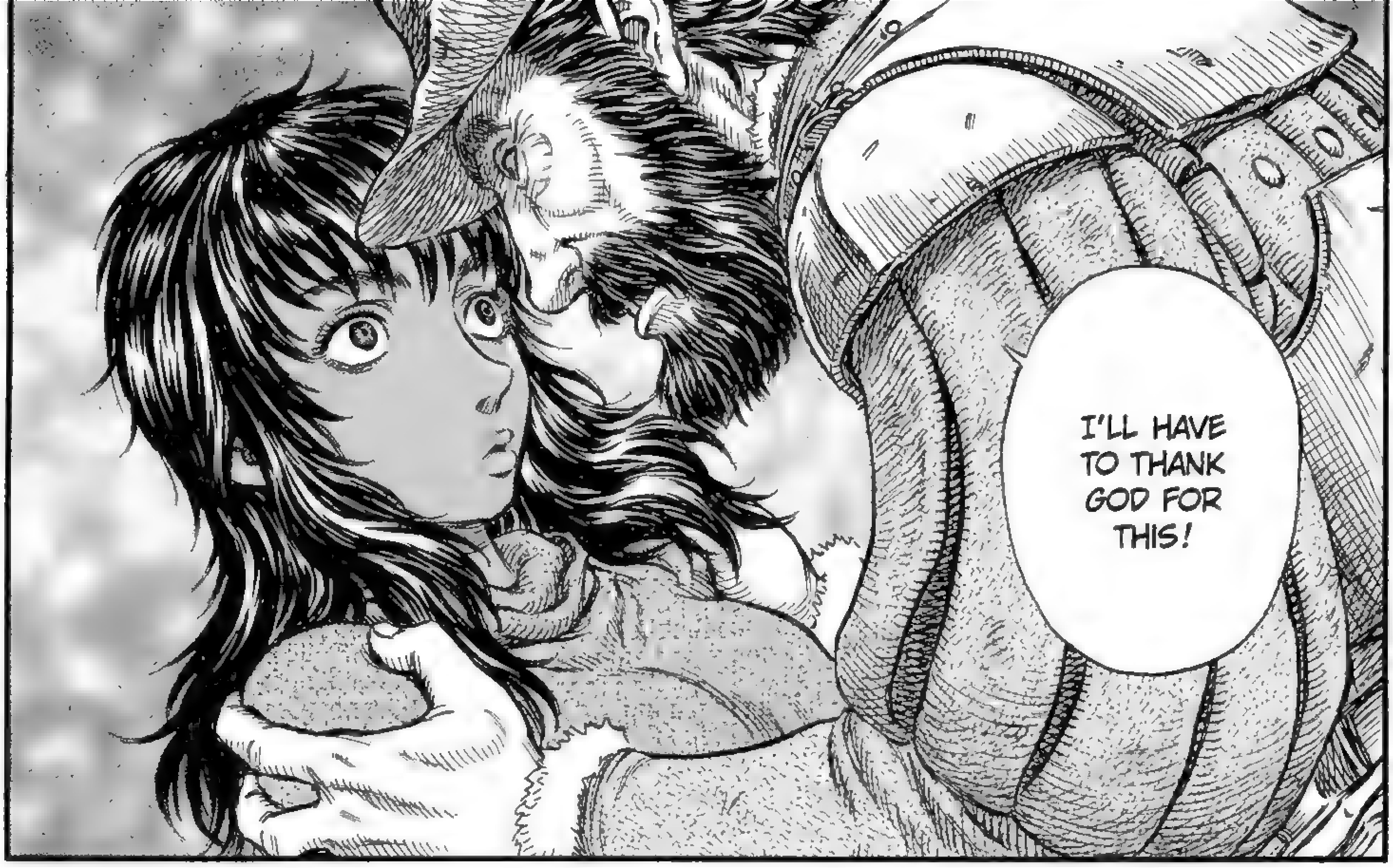
*FX: MNCH MNCH

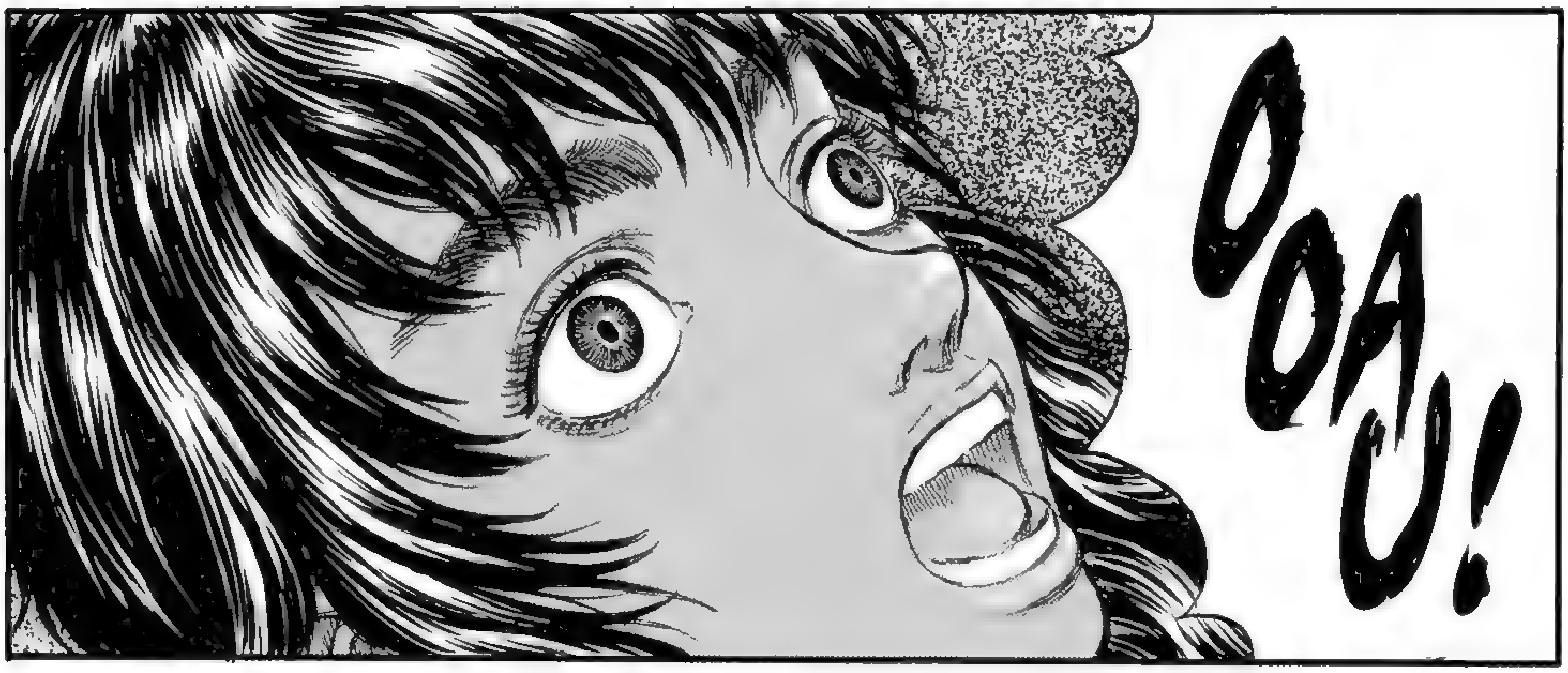
*FX: ZHA

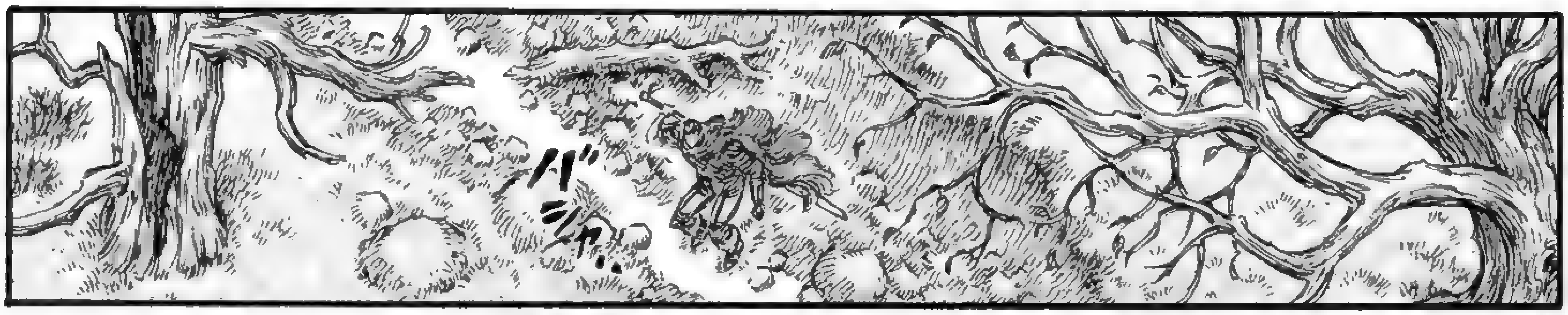
*FX: FRMP FRMP

*MNCH

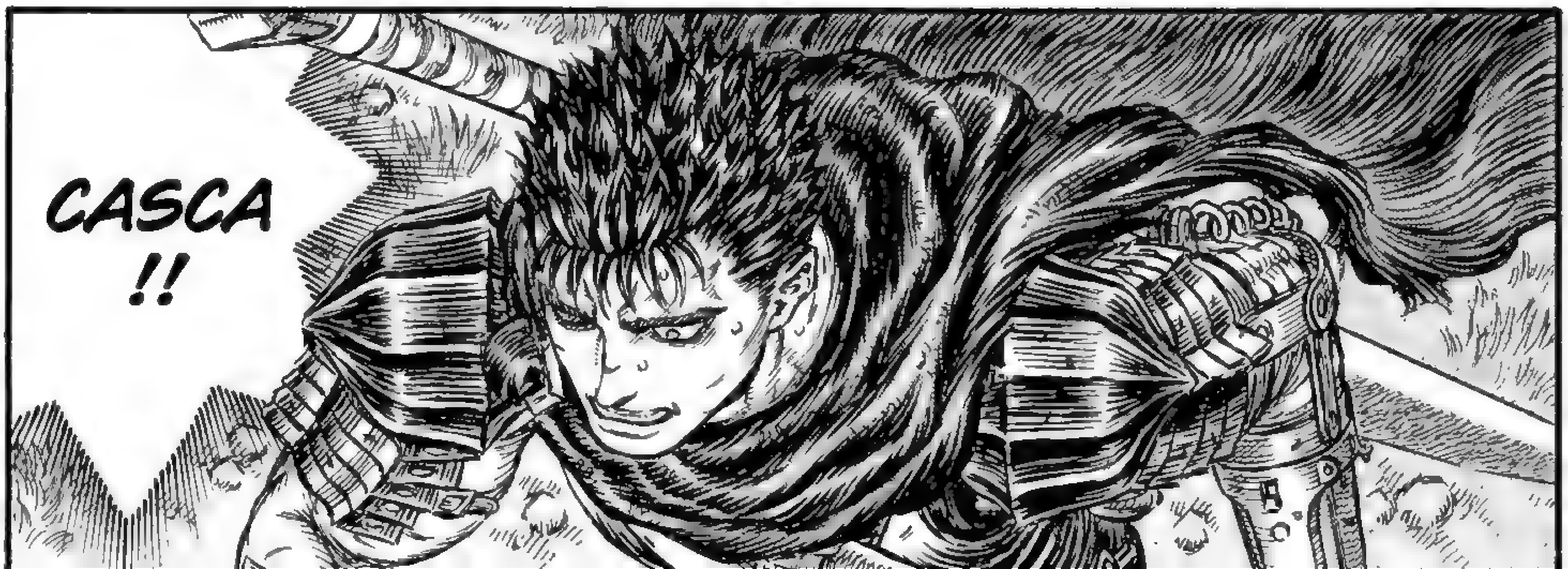
AHH! MUH DRIED MEAT...!
WHAT IN THE...
A W-WOMAN ?!
*FX: SWP
PILGRIM CLOTHES? WHY'S A PILGRIM AROUND *HERE*?
I WUZ SAVIN' THAT FER LAST ...!
HEHEH ...
*FX: MNCH MNCH
MEAT ...
SHE AIN'T BAD, THIS BROAD.
YOU GONNA RAPE A PILGRIM? THAT'S A SIN.
NO, BOSS.
VOOO...
SHE'S A BLESSIN' FROM GOD FOR US WRETCHED THIEVES.
WELL...
...WORKS FOR ME.


I'LL HAVE TO THANK GOD FOR THIS!





*FX: BLASH



I WAS NAIVE.
WHEN I HEADED FOR THE TOWER OF CONVICTION...
...I JUST HOPED SHE WAS STILL ALIVE...
...ALIVE AND SAFE, THAT WAS ALL.
WHEN I GOT HER BACK...
...I THOUGHT THAT WAS EVERYTHING.
I WAS TOO NAIVE.

EVEN DOING THAT...
...THERE WAS NO WAY...
...TO WIPE AWAY THE YEARS I LEFT HER BEHIND.
THERE'S NO WAY TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIME I LEFT HER IN DARKNESS.
ALL THE TIME I SPENT WANDERING.
ALL THE TIME I LEFT HER THERE ALONE.
I'VE BECOME ESTRANGED FROM HER.

*ZHA ZHA ZHA ZHA ZHA

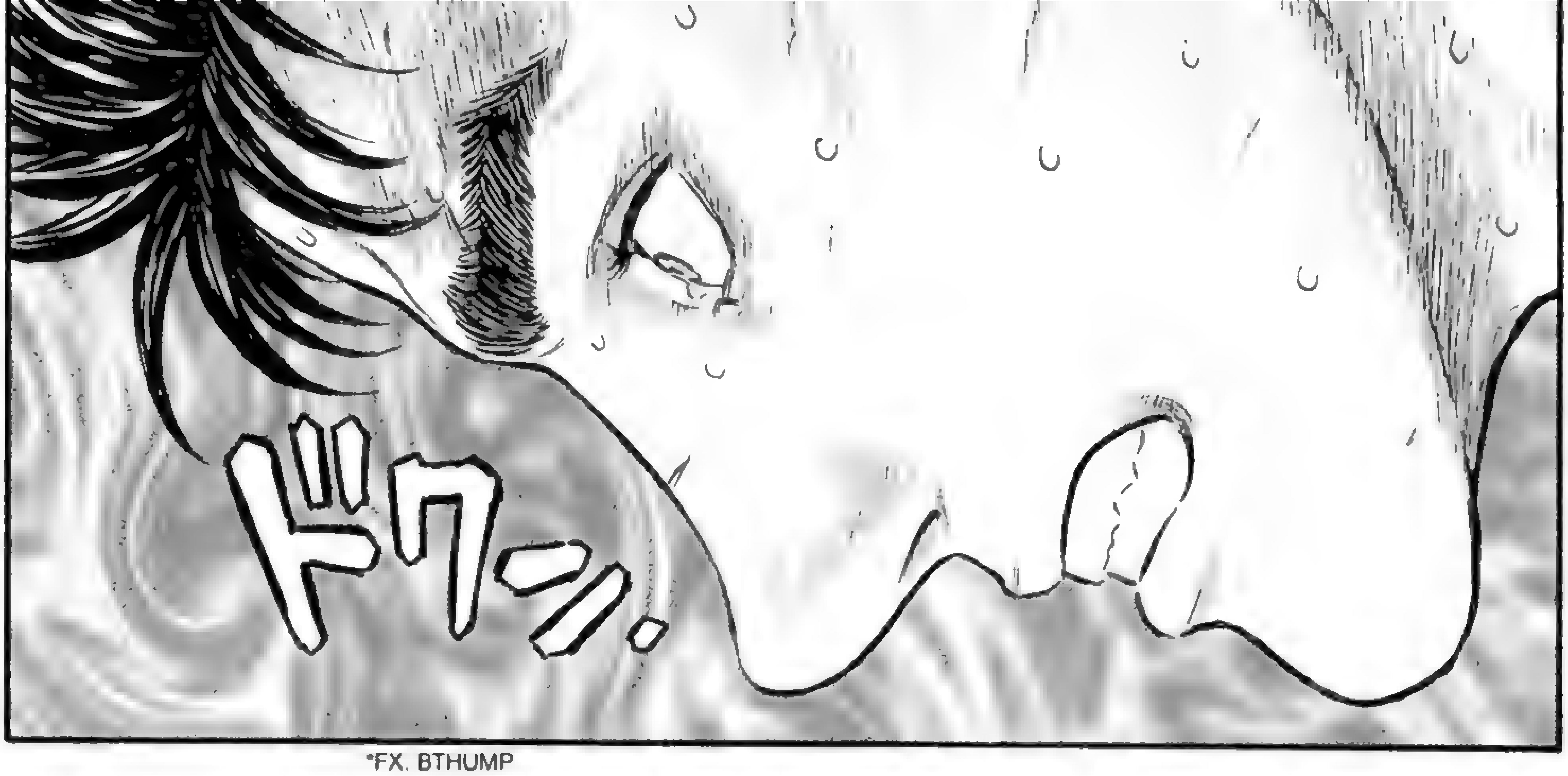
*HAHHH
*HAHHH

……
……!!
*FLINCH
ビク
*FX: JHAK
*FX: HYEWN
*HHH
*HHH
CAS...

...!!
NO WAY...
OOGEE...
AGYAU!!
!
QUI--!

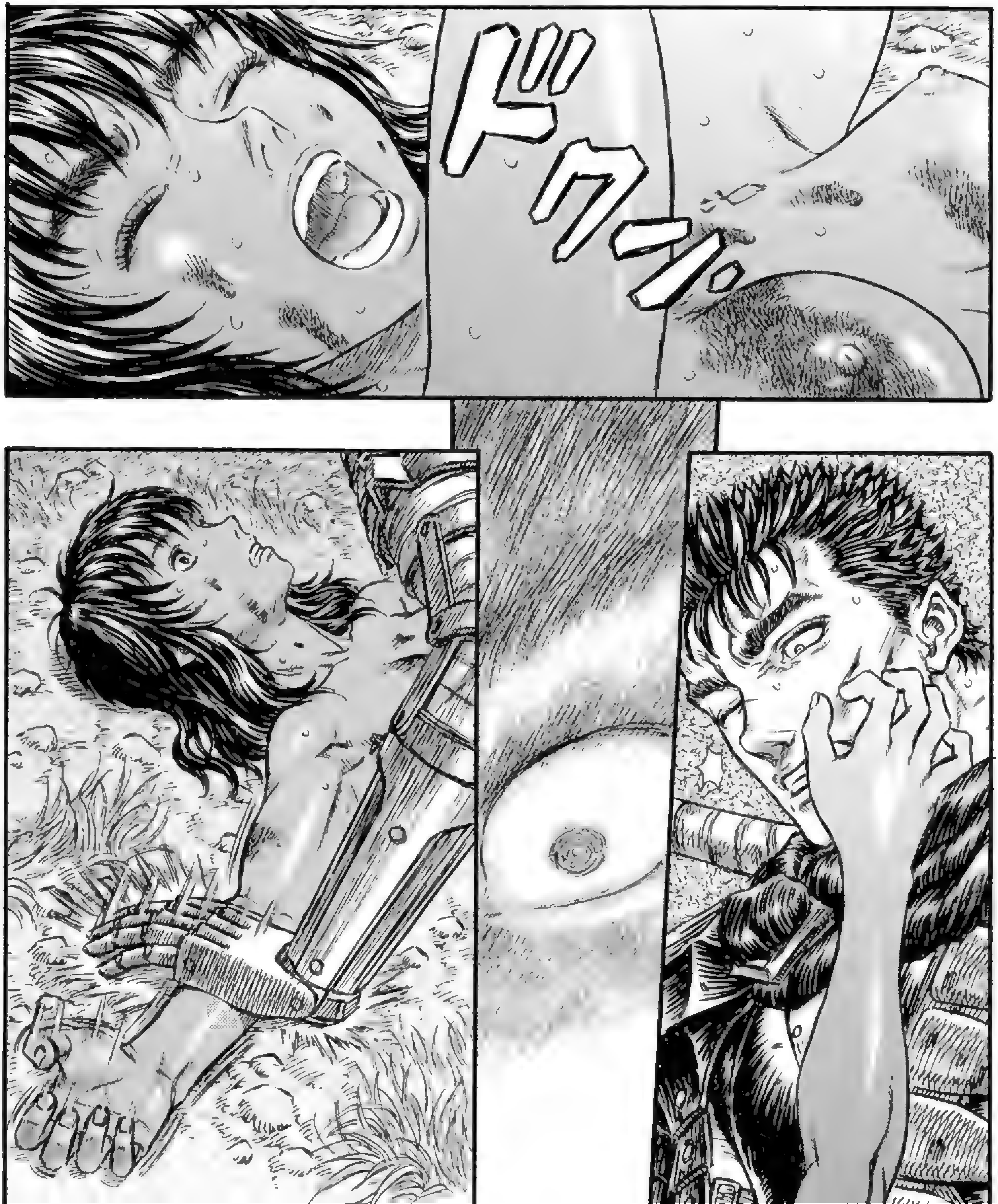
*FX: GRAU!

*ZHA



*FX. BTHUMP

*FX BTHUMP



NN...

NNNNN...

# FANGS OF EGO

# 我牙

NNN...
NNN...
ガチ
*CLAT
ガチ
*CLAT
GHEE...
バタバタ
*KICK KICK
OOOO...
*FX GSHANG
ガシャ

ガッキッ
*WHACK
UAH...
ビクッ
*TWITCH

YES.

RIP HER TO SHREDS.
THE WAY GRIFFITH DID.

BITE AND TEAR.
PENETRATE.
SHE'S A SACRIFICE.
YOU MUST...
...LOSE EVERYTHING.

MAKE EVERYTHING...
...FOOD FOR YOUR MALICE.

ニチャ…
*FX CHOMP
うわあああ
*AGHHHH!
ガシャッ
*GSHANG

ヒュー
HHHH
ヒュー
HHHH
ザッ
ZHA
I...

HEYYY!
CASCA, HEYYY!
IF WE DON'T FIND HER SOON THE SUN'LL S--
HMM?
でででで…
OHH!
LOOKY!

*FX: DMP DMP DMP

でででででででででで
*DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP
HEY, DROPEY!
IF IT AIN'T DROPEY!
AHH, PUCK!!
AH... AH FOND YUUU!!
*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP
でででで
SOOO, BEEN A WHILE. YOU SURVIVED?
HOURSE I HID! 'EN 'OOKIN' FER OUU! NE'ER 'OUGHT YOU'D 'E 'ERE!

HA'D HOLLOW 'IM, HAHEE, 'OO 'E, HEEHEE, E' O' D'EARTH, FUHEE, FER 'AT 'EE OWES MUH, HOHEEHEE.
EATIN', TALKIN', OR RUNNIN'. GOTTA PICK ONE.
HNGULP. HUHUH! NOT GONNA HAPPEN! I'M BEIN' CHASED BY SCOUNDRELS RIGHT NOW!
AIN'T THE SCOUNDREL *BEIN'* CHASED?
*LAME-BRAIN!*
ALL I DID WAS CARRY STUFF OUT OF KINDNESS FOR SOME PEOPLE I KNOW!
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO *SKINFLINTS* LIKE THEM...
!
D'OH!

*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP

*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP

*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP

*FX: HYN

*FX: HYN

*FX: CATCH

*FX: WHUMP

*HAHH
ハ!
*HAHH
ハ!
SO THERE ARE PEOPLE WHOSE CHARGE...
...FOR CARRYING LUGGAGE *IS* THE LUGGAGE.
ゼー...
ゼー...
OH?
***DUMBASS!*** I JUST THOUGHT I'D DO YOU A FAVOR AND TEACH SOME DUMB ARISTOCRATS HOW HARSH THE WORLD CAN BE...
OHO!
ハァ
ハァ

*FX: HEHH HEHH

*FX: HAHH HAHH

Y...
YOU CAUGHT HIM.
ハア *HAHH
ハア *HAHH
ハア *HAHH
GOOD.
CUT HIS ARM OFF AT ONCE...
LADY FARNESE...
OH!
YOU DROP THREATS AT THE DROP OF A HAT!
S'WHY I CAN'T *STAND* NOBILITY!
*FX: SMMMM
スス...
YOU *STOLE* FROM NOBILITY. SUCH PUNISHMENT IS MATTER OF...
... COURSE ...
YA-HO! CAN YOU SEE ME NOW?

........
たっち
LADY FARNESE ?!
パタ
...
NICE ONE!
バシ
SO...
... THAT'S WHY...
...I BROUGHT ALONG SOME GUESTS.

*FX: TOUCH

*FX: WHAP

*FX: PWUMP

HI.
YO!
.........
YOU GUYS.
I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YA REAL HARD SINCE LAST TIME! YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD RUN FROM ME, BUT YA CAN'T!
*HSSS
CHASE LIKE A SNAKE, BITE LIKE A SNAPPIN' TURTLE, AND GNAW LIKE A VULTURE! THAT'S *MY* MOTTO!
W-WE'VE GOT A SICK GIRL AND A GOOD-FOR-NOTHIN'... GIVE US A BREAK.

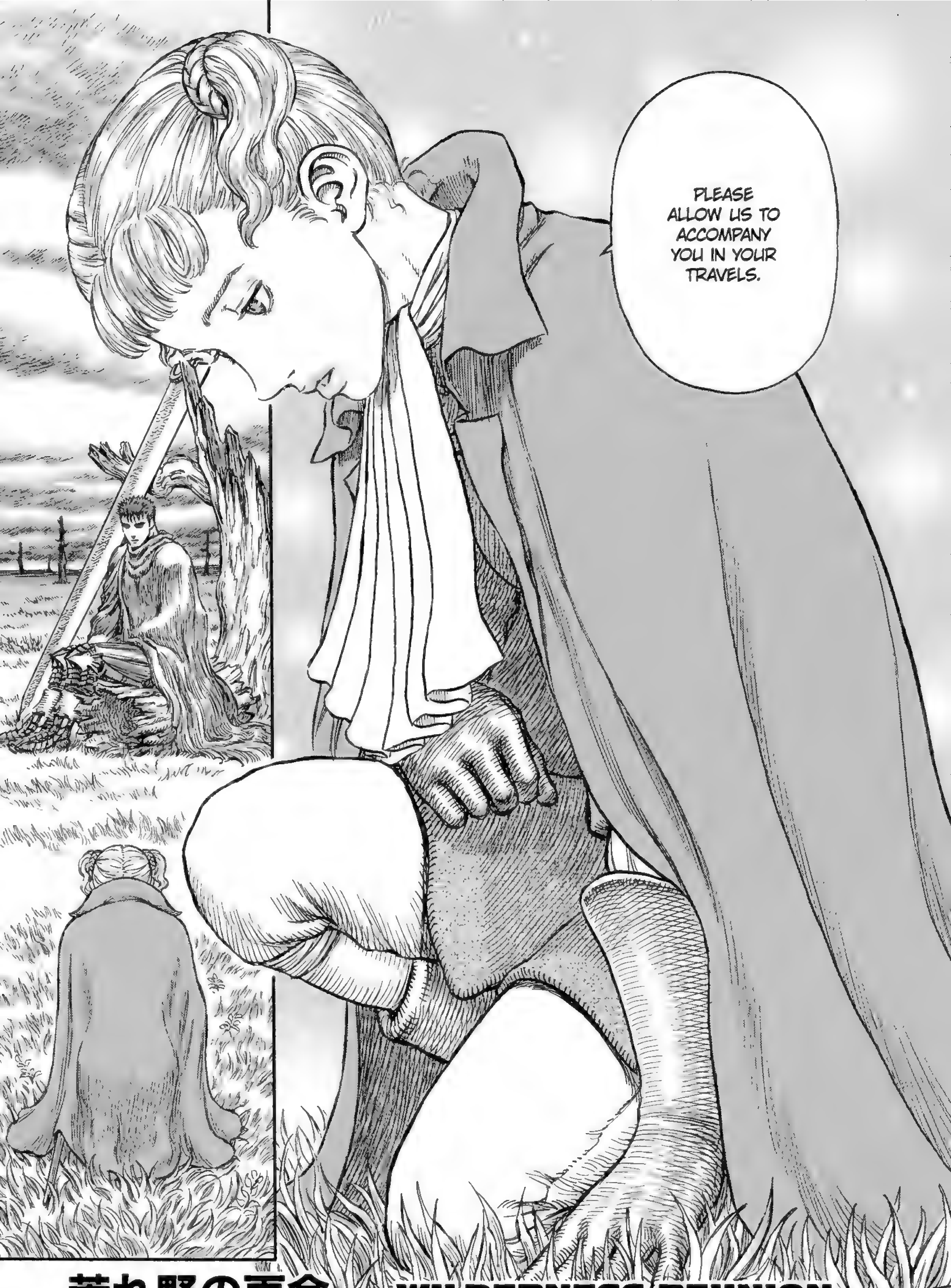
OH, YEAH!
WHERE'S CASCA?
OH, YEAH... !
CASCA! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE!
!
*HUH?* WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
CASCA'S TIED UP?
.........
IT'S FOR HER OWN SAFETY.

A LOT'S HAPPENED...
HUHHN...
WELL...
...I DON'T KNOW WHY...
......
*REACH
ス
...BUT THAT ASIDE...
*FX: SPIN
くるっ
*FX: JAK
ジャキ!
...IIIIIIT'S DEAL TIME!! NOW YOU GET TO PAY ME BACK!!
YOU'RE GONNA TEACH ME! THE SECRETS OF YOUR SWORD FIGHTIN' AND THE SECRET SECRETS! LEAVIN' NOTHIN' OUT!! AND SOON! LIKE NOW!
はあっ
*FX: HAHAH
SO WHAT ABOUT YOU TWO?
*FX: CHING
チーン
THEN I FORMALLY RECOGNIZE YOU AS A DISCIPLE OF ELF DIMENSION STYLE.

YOU STILL TRYING TO CATCH ME?
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A CRIMINAL!
FEROCIOUS THIEF! FIRST LESSON, THE THOUSAND-SPIKE STRIKE!
ビズ BIS
YEAH, YEAH, WATCH OUT! THEY WERE ABOUT TO HACK MY ARM OFF EARLIER!
LADY FARNESE?

ザッ
*FX: ZHA
!
BLACK SWORDSMAN.
PLEASE ALLOW US TO...
...ACCOMPANY YOU IN YOUR TRAVELS.

FANGS OF EGO: END

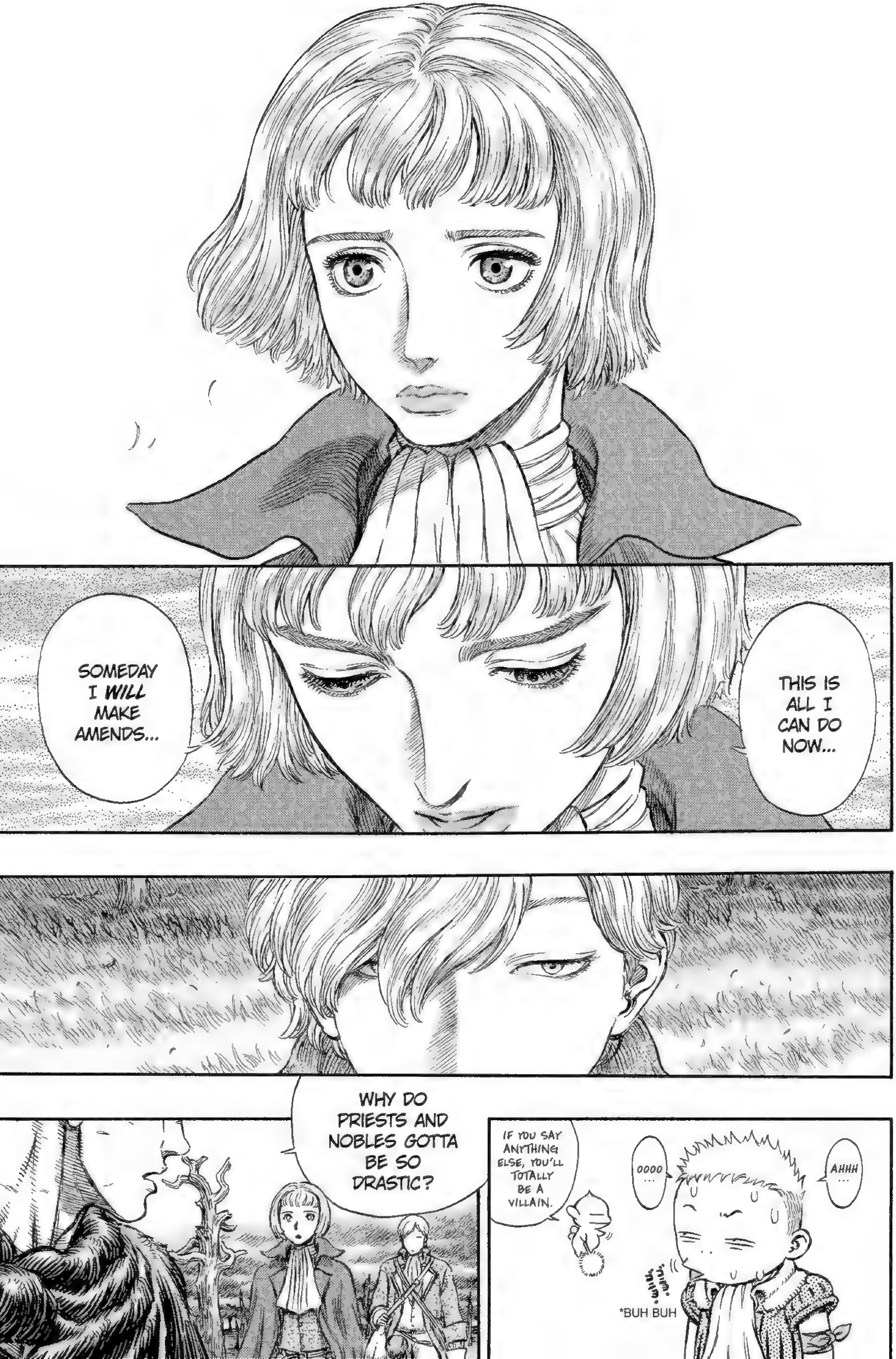

PLEASE ALLOW US TO ACCOMPANY YOU IN YOUR TRAVELS.

# 荒れ野の再会 WILDERNESS REUNION

......
COME ON.
AREN'T YOU GOING TO KNEEL TOO?
ザ *ZHA
......
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
***DON'T TRUST 'EM!*** IT'S LIKE THEY'RE SUDDENLY REVEALIN' THEIR HAND!
YOU'RE OPEN!
ずび *THMP
I BET THEY'LL WAIT FOR A CHANCE TO NAB US! AFTER ALL, THEY'RE FROM THE ***HOLY SEE...***

I HAVE ALREADY *SECULARIZED* MYSELF AND ABANDONED THE CHURCH.
LIKE WE TRUST *YOU!* OR *ANYTHING* NOBLES SAY!
OR THIEVES.
I WANT TO KNOW...
...WHAT TRANSCENDS THE ORDER I CLING TO.
THE TRUTH.
AND I WANT TO LEARN...
...A WAY TO SURVIVE IN THE DARKNESS...
...WHERE THE LIGHT OF THAT ORDER DOES NOT REACH.
FROM YOU...
PLEASE SHOW ME THE WAY.

EVEN IF YOU CONFUSE US BY SAYIN' COMPLICATED STUFF, IT AIN'T HAPPENIN'!
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S TOO COMPLICATED!
AND HOW'RE YOU GONNA PAY UP FOR WHAT YOU DID TO CASCA AT THE TOWER OF CONVICTION?!
A LITTLE MORE AND SHE WOULD'VE BEEN A CHARRED CORPSE!!
HIM, TOO.
IF YESTERDAY'S ENEMIES ARE TODAY'S FRIENDS...
...FIRST MAKE SOME DAMN SENSE.
SO! MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO KOWTOW ONCE FOR US? CAN YOU DO THAT, MISS HIGH-PRIDE ARISTOCRAT?
*BLBLBL
MAYBE I'LL EXPEL HIM...
......
*REACH
*SNK
OH-HOHH?! YOU WANNA FIGHT?! F-F-F-FINE BY ME!!
*FLINCH
LITTLE PUNK
*CHAK


SOMEDAY I *WILL* MAKE AMENDS...
THIS IS ALL I CAN DO NOW...
WHY DO PRIESTS AND NOBLES GOTTA BE SO DRASTIC?
IF YOU SAY ANYTHING ELSE, YOU'LL TOTALLY BE A VILLAIN.
OOOO...
AHHH...
*BUH BUH

DO WHAT YOU WANT.
ALL...
ALL RIGHT THEN...
......
OH, THAT WAS FAST.
AND I DON'T NEED PAYBACK OR APOLOGIES.
I'VE KILLED YOUR COMRADES.
WE'RE EVEN.
TCH!

BUT FORGET ME SHOWING YOU *"THE WAY."*
THAT AIN'T MY STYLE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS YOU WANT TO LEARN...
...BUT DO IT YOURSELF.
I WON'T BOTHER YOU IF YOU DON'T BOTHER ME.
THANK YOU...
IT'S *STILL* TOO SOON FOR THAT.
YOU MIGHT REGRET THIS BY TOMORROW MORNING.

GOING WITH US MEANS...
...YOU WON'T HAVE ANY MORE RESTFUL NIGHTS.
OH YEAH?! YOU MEAN WE'LL FIND MORE GHOSTS AND MONSTERS?!
TH-THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!!
SOMETHIN'S ODD...
FOR GUTS TO ACCEPT OTHER PEOPLE THAT READILY...
WELL ... ...WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
THE NIGHT'S LONG.
YEAHHH!!
......

IF I WAS ALONE...
IF IT WAS THE USUAL ME, I'D BE REFUSING THEM OUTRIGHT.
HONESTLY...
...THIS TIME I GIVE UP.
FOR THE FIRST TIME...
EVERYONE GATHER UP FIREWOOD. WE GOTTA KEEP IT GOIN' ALL NIGHT.
WHY'RE YOU GIVIN' ORDERS?
...I'M COUNTING ON COMPLETE STRANGERS FOR HELP.
I'M SHUDDERING AT...
...MY OWN SINISTERNESS.

I'M BEATEN DOWN...
...BY MY OWN POWERLESSNESS.
WHEN WAS...
...THE LAST TIME SHE SMILED?

AGAIN...
...THE CURTAIN OF NIGHT DESCENDS.

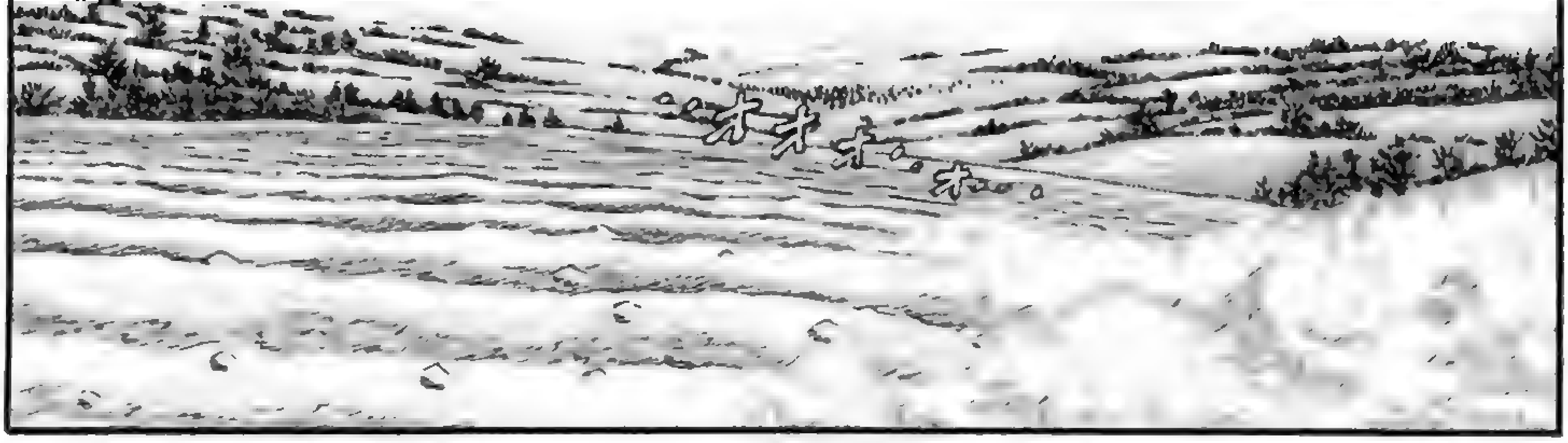
SOUTHERN MIDLAND, FIEFDOM OF LUMIAS

DAMN IT!
THEY PLAN TO CARRY OFF *EVERYTHING!*
***LORD MULE,*** DO YOU SERIOUSLY INTEND TO ENGAGE THEM?
ENOUGH, ***SARITUS!***
NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, YOU HAVE COLD FEET?!
STANDING BACK, WATCHING THEM VIOLATE OUR LAND, IS THE ULTIMATE INSULT TO A MEMBER OF MIDLAND'S NOBILITY!!
I COULD ***NEVER*** FACE THE ROYAL FAMILY!!
BUT LUMIAS IS A SMALL FIEFDOM. YOUR FAMILY IS NOT EVEN PERMITTED TO ENTER THE ROYAL PALACE.
THERE IS NO NEED FOR US TO RISK OUR LIVES IN DUTY TO THE ROYAL FAMILY...
THEN WHAT OF MY FATHER AND BROTHERS, WHO DIED IN HEROIC DEFENSE OF THE CASTLE?!
YOU MEAN THEY DIED IN VAIN?!
ALL THE MORE REASON, M'LORD... SO THAT THE BLOODLINE WILL NOT BE CUT OFF...
I HEARD THIS FROM MY LORD WHILE HE WAS ALIVE... THAT THERE IS A RESISTANCE FORCE...
...GOING AROUND, LIBERATING VARIOUS AREAS FROM THE KUSHAN WITHIN OCCUPIED MIDLAND...

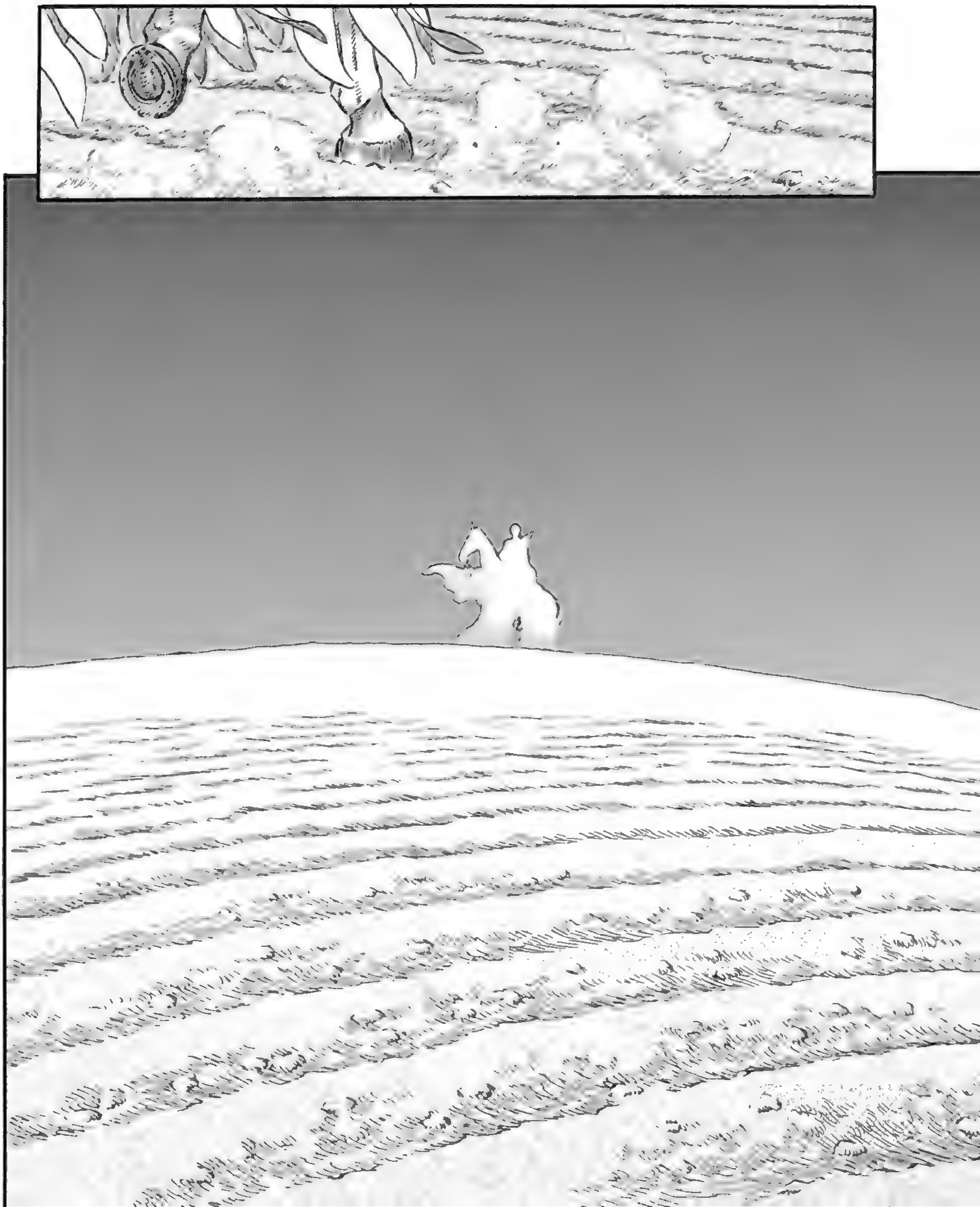
IT IS SAID THAT COMMANDING THEM IS OUR HERO AND SAVIOR FROM THE HUNDRED-YEAR WAR.
THE WHITE HAWK, COUNT GRIFFITH.
GRIFFITH ...!!
THE--!!
B-BUT I'VE HEARD THAT COUNT GRIFFITH DIED!
THAT THREE YEARS AGO HE WAS ARRESTED FOR TREASON AND DIED IN PRISON...
IT IS ALSO SAID HE WAS RESCUED BY HIS MEN AND ESCAPED THE CAPITAL.
THE DETAILS ARE UNKNOWN... BUT INSTEAD OF GAMBLING THE DOOM OF YOUR FAMILY ON THIS RECKLESS FIGHT...
...PERHAPS IT WOULD BE MORE PRUDENT FOR NOW TO ABANDON THIS TERRITORY AND UNITE OURSELVES WITH THE RESISTANCE FORCE...
THAT WHITE HAWK IS...?
ISN'T IT SIMPLY A RUMOR...?
BUT IF IT'S THE TRUTH...

LORD MULE, PLEASE EXERCISE PRUDENCE IN THIS.
......
ウワァァァァ
*FX: AGGHHHH
!
THOSE ARE OUR PEOPLE! THEY DON'T KNOW THE CASTLE FELL, AND ON THEIR WAY THERE THEY RAN INTO THE KUSHAN...!!
THERE'S WOMEN AND CHILDREN, TOO!!
LORD MULE ...
......!!
ブチ
*FX: SNCH
*FX: ZHA
THIS ISN'T ABOUT ROYAL DEVOTION ...
...OR MY HONOR AS A NOBLE...
ザッ

ALL OF YOU FOLLOW ME!!
RESCUE OUR SUBJECTS!!
*ROHHH



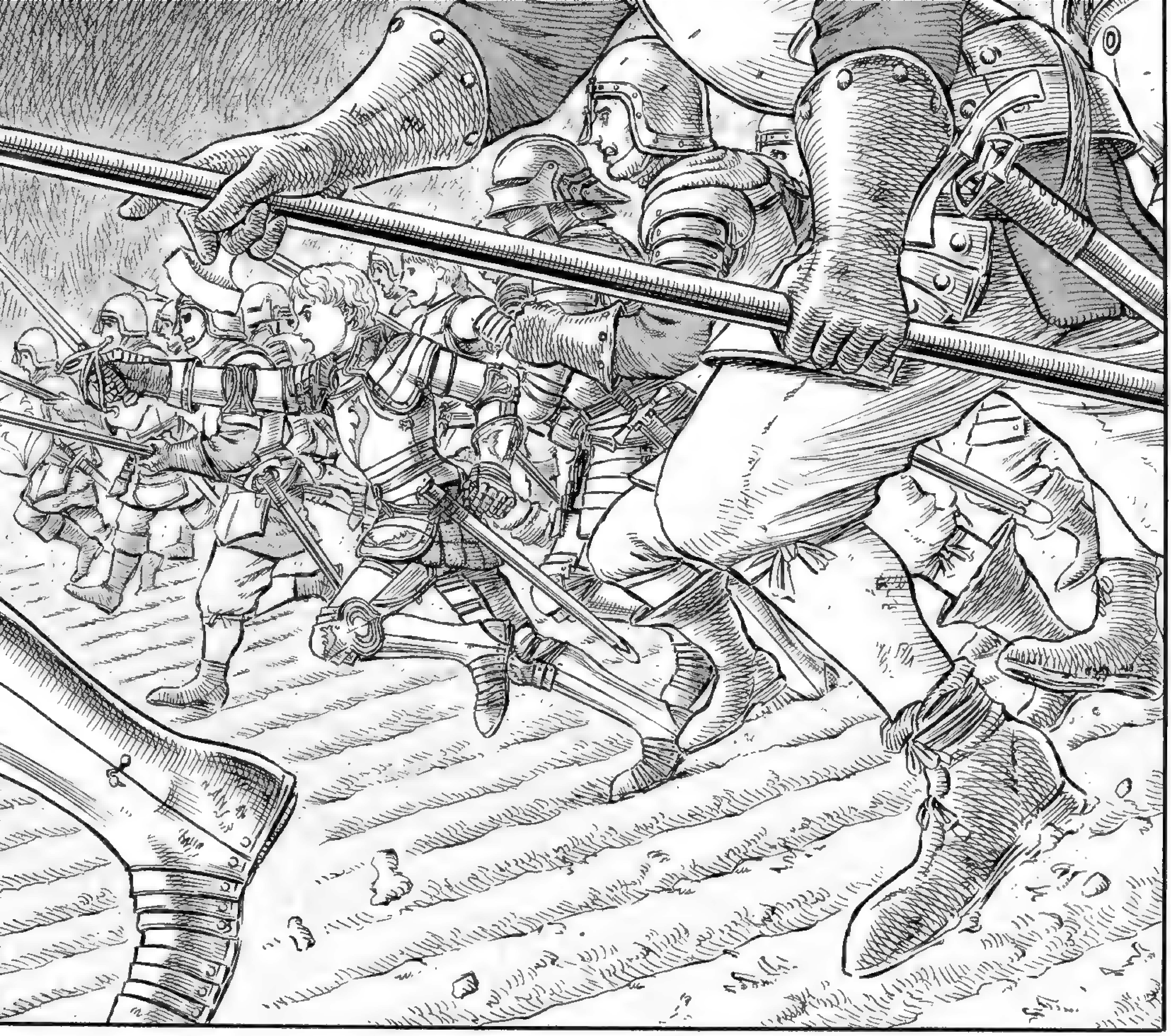
*FX OHHH OHH



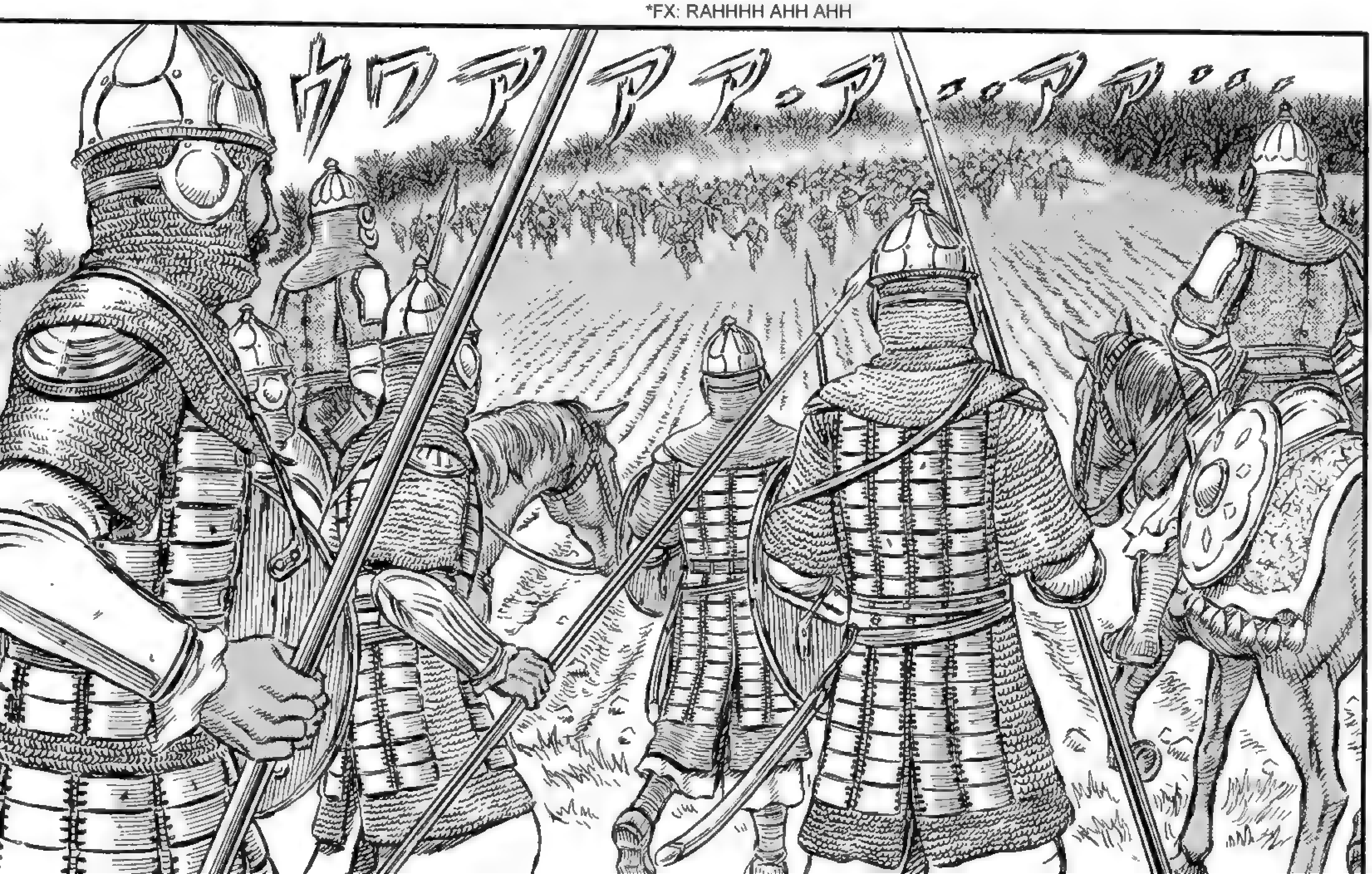
THE WAR DEMONS

戦魔

# BERSERK



*FX: RAHHHH AHH AHH



ENEMY REMNANTS, GENERAL!
HMPH! HOW CUNNING.
SEND THE WAR SLAVES TO MEET THEM!!
ガシャア・ア・
*GSHANNNG
DON'T FORGET!! THE ARROWS OF OUR ARCHERS ARE ALWAYS AIMED AT YOUR BACKS!!
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, SURVIVE THIS BATTLE!!
GO!

オオオオ
•OHHHH

*DOSH
*GSHANNG
NO...!!
THEY'RE NOT KUSHAN ?!
THEY'RE... MIDLANDER PRISONERS?!
*FX: RAHHHH AHHH
HUH HUH ...
THESE WAR SLAVES ARE ONE OF THE PRIMARY REASONS OUR EMPIRE HAS EXPANDED ITS TERRITORY SO!
RESTRICT YOUR OWN CASUALTIES TO A MINIMUM, AND YET BREAK THE ENEMY'S FIGHTING SPIRIT CONSIDERABLY!
THEN AS LONG AS WE KEEP WINNING, THERE'S NO NEED TO REPLENISH OUR FORCES! THE MORE WAR WE WAGE, THE MORE WAR CAPACITY WE HAVE!
IT IS THIS STRATEGY ITSELF, BACKED BY FEAR, THAT HAS MADE OUR GREAT LONG-LASTING CAMPAIGN POSSIBLE!

ARCHERS FORWARD!!
THE ENEMY BEGINS TO WAVER!! PREPARE A VOLLEY!!
*BOF
*BOF
*BOF
*BOF
*BOF
FIIIRE!!
*FX: ZHEEEEE
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
!
FIRING ON THEIR ALLIES TOO...?!
DESPICA-BLE!!

CAVALRY, CHARGE!! EXTERMINATE THEM!!
THEY ATTACKED US WITH *THOSE* NUMBERS!! THOSE PREPARED FOR DEATH WILL NOT BECOME WAR SLAVES!!
KILL THEM ALL!!
ガガガガ
ワアアア…ア…
KH...
キィィンッ
*KREEEEEN

*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP BDADUMP

*FX: RAHHHHH

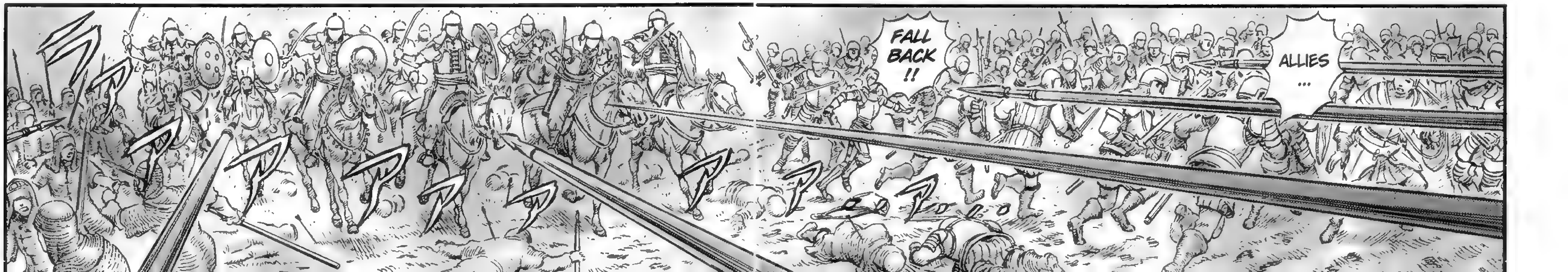
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
WHA... ?!
うわああ *WAHHH
ドサ *THUD
ドサ *THUD
FROM WHERE ...?!

*CHAK
*VEEN
*VAAN
*VAAN
*REEEN

*VOOM
*FX: EEE EE EEEE EE
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
IGH
*ZHAAAAAA
REINFORCE-MENTS...?!
HEY, LOOK!
*FX: DMDMDMDMDMDM

*FX. DMDMDMDMDMDMDM

*FX: RAHHHHH AHH


ALLIES ...
FALL BACK !!

*ZHUNK
*BRMMMBLE
ゴゴゴゴゴ。ゴ。。
*UWAHHHH
ウワァァァァ・ア・・・
WH-WHO THE HELL ARE *THEY?!*
A FEW DOZEN OF THEM ARE ROUTING OUR CAVALRY OF FIVE HUNDRED ...?!

DON'T BE DISTURBED!! NOT BY SO FEW HORSEMEN!!
SPREAD OUT AND SURROUND THEM!!
SHOW THEM THE FULL POWER OF THE KUSHAN CAVALRY'S CONTINENTAL CONQUEST!!
*GROWWN
*FX FLINCH
*HRRRHRHRN
?!
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
WHOA! WHOA!
*DMDMDMDMDM
!
GENERAL!! NEW FORCES ON OUR LEFT FLANK.

*RMMMMBLE

*WHOM
*SHNK
*SHNK

WHAT ARE THEY ?!
MON-STERRRS !!
*FX: UWAHHHH
ウワァァァァ
YOU MUSTN'T RETREAT !!
THE ENEMY NUMBERS LESS THAN A HUNDRED!!
*FX: GCHIK
ガチン
YOU CALL YOURSELVES KUSHAN ELITE...?!
ドゴオオン
*DGOOOOOM

ゴシャッ
*GOSSH
ムウウウゥ..
*LOOOOM
ドチャッ
*DOCH
ズバッ
*ZOON
AUGHHHH!
ズバッ
*ZOON
*GULCH
G-GIANTS!!
G-GENERAL...!!
...!!
C-COULD THESE BE...
...THE FORCES ABOUT WHICH WORD WAS RECEIVED, GOING AROUND LIBERATING VARIOUS POSTS WE'VE TAKEN...?!

オオオオオオ・・オ・・・
ROHHHHH
!
THAT'S...!! N-NO MISTAKING IT!!
THAT EMBLEM IS--
THAT'S --

# 飛剣の御旗

# BANNER OF THE FLYING SWORD

*DM
*DM
*DM
FOLLOW THE HAAAWK !!
*DM
*DM

*FX: ROHHHH

WH-WHAT A MAGNIFICENT ARROWHEAD FORMATION!! THEY'RE CARVING RIGHT INTO THAT LARGE ARMY...!!
A... AMAZING ...!!
THERE IS NO MISTAKING IT, LORD MULE!!
THAT EMBLEM!! IT IS THE MIDLAND RESISTANCE FORCE!! THE BAND OF THE HAWK!!
THAT KNIGHT IN THE SILVER ARMOR IS OUR KINGDOM'S HERO HIMSELF.
THE WHITE HAWK, COUNT GRIFFITH!!
THE WHITE HAWK.
GRIFFITH ...!!!

THIS IS OUR FIEFDOM!!
RIGHT! DON'T FALL BEHIND!
AYYYYE!!
H-HALT ...!!
WATCH OUT!!
*SMP
*SMP
*SMP
*SMP
STRAY ARROWS ...?!
THAT WAS CLOSE. IF WE'D TAKEN ANOTHER HALF STEP...!!
WHAT WAS THAT IN MY MIND...?!
!

*GRIN ニッ
COULD THAT...
...HAVE BEEN?
ゴゴゴゴ ゴ… ゴゴ… ゴ…
*FX: BRRRMMMM
......
THE LIFEFORCE BLANKETING A BATTLEFIELD...
...IS IN CONSTANT FLUCTUATION, LIKE BLOOD THAT FLOWS AND STAGNATES...

OUR OPENING LIES ALONG A DIRECT VECTOR.
ITS VERTEX IS THE HEART OF THE ENEMY'S WILL...!
LORD GRIFFITH !!
*LEEEEAP
HE... HE FLEW ?!

*FWHOOOOSH
ALL FORCES ASSUME AN ENCLOSING FORMATION!
HUR ...?!

*THWOK
EH?
*THNK

I'VE KILLED THE LEADER !!
FINISH OFF THE REST OF THEM !!
G...
GENERAL ?!
THE GENER-AL'S DEAD!!
WHAT ?
ガチャ
*FX: GCHAK
オオオオオ
*FX: OHHHH
R...
RE-TREAT ...!!
RE-TREEEAT !!

ウワアアアアアア
*UWAHHHHH
オオオオオ
WE...
WE WON...?
ザッ
*FX. ZHA
*FX. OHHH
オオオオオオオ
*FX ROHHHH

WHAT A DISASTER! BY NO MORE THAN A THOUSAND ENEMIES AT BEST... NO, IN ACTUALITY BY THAT VANGUARD OF A MERE HUNDRED!
FIVE THOUSAND OF KUSHAN'S PROUDLY EVER-VICTORIOUS ELITE WERE ROUTED WITH EASE!!
SO THAT'S THE HAWK OF LIGHT FROM THE BAKIRAKA REPORT!
PERHAPS NOW IS NO TIME TO TOSS ASIDE THE MUTTERINGS OF THE PRIESTS AS NONSENSE! I MUST HURRY BACK TO HEADQUARTERS...!

WH- WHO ARE *THEY?!*
*HRRHRHRN
WHOA, WHOA.
S-STAFF OFFICER !!
WH ...
WHEN DID THEY...? WHO...?
IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO LEAVE.

WE HAVEN'T YET SEEN BLOOD.
グハハハハハハ
ギャアアア・ア
ひィィィ・ィ

*FX: HEEE

*FX: HEH HEH

*FX: HFF HF HF

*GUHAHAHAHAHAH HAH

*FX: GYAHHHH

*FX. AIIIEEE

UNBELIEV-ABLE...
IS THIS REALLY A BATTLEFIELD?
WOMEN, CHILDEN, THE ELDERLY...
IT LOOKS JUST LIKE SUPPERTIME IN SOME PEACEFUL VILLAGE.
THESE GENTLE, SMILING FACES...
THEY DON'T SEEM LIKE PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN OVERRUN BY A FOREIGN ARMY.
IT'S LORD GRIFFITH.
!

YOU'RE...
WE CAN ALL SMILE...
...BECAUSE WE HAVE LORD GRIFFITH.
THIS GIRL.
DON'T TELL ME SHE READ MY MIND...?
*HMHM
クス
I'M SONIA.
WEL-COME TO...
...THE BAND OF THE HAWK.

BAND OF THE HAWK...
RIGHT.
NAMED AFTER THAT LEGENDARY BAND OF THE HAWK.
WITH THE HAWK IN COMMAND, IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING ELSE.
EVERYONE ASKED LORD GRIFFITH TO NAME IT SO.
NOW, COME WITH ME.
!
YOU WANT TO MEET HIM, DON'T YOU?
MEET LORD GRIFFITH.
......

## WINGS OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS

## 光と闇の翼

# BERSERK

WHAT HIGH MORALE THESE SOLDIERS HAVE!
TO THINK I'D SEE SUCH A SPECTACLE...
...IN THIS LAND OVERRUN BY THE KUSHAN AND EFFECTIVELY IN A STATE OF ANARCHY!
नहीं नहीं ! घोड़े पर इधर उधर नहीं हि
NO! KEEP YOUR HORSE STEADIER.
!

घोड़े को साध कर रखो।
TRY NOT TO LET THE HORSE'S BARREL MOVE UP AND DOWN.
KUSHAN ...!!
THOSE ARE KUSHAN, AREN'T THEY?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
"THAT'S RIGHT" ?!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?! WHY'S THE ENEMY --
THEY AREN'T, NOW.
STOP SHOUTING, ALL RIGHT?
THEY'RE PLEDGES.

ALTHOUGH, IN THEIR EMPIRE, THEY WOULD APPARENTLY BE CALLED "WAR SLAVES."
WH-WHAT THE--?!
THIS BIZARRE OVERPOWERING SENSE...!
IT'S LIKE...
...I'M BEING STARED DOWN BY SOME HUGE BEAST!
*CLENCH

IT IS THE LAW OF OUR ARMY. SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONER WHO SURVIVE THE FULL BRUNT OF BATTLE THREE TIMES ARE MADE TO CHOOSE CONCILIATION OR DEATH.
DEPENDING ON HOW PLEDGES PERFORM AFTERWARDS, THEY ARE PROMOTED JUST LIKE ANY OTHER SOLDIER AND SOMETIMES EVEN PUT IN CHARGE OF OTHERS.
WE ARE AN ARMY THAT HAS LEARNED FROM THE KUSHAN AND REFINED ITSELF. THE KUSHAN COMMAND MEN ONLY BY FEAR, BUT WE MAKE USE OF BOTH FEAR AND INCENTIVE.
THAT'S ABSURD!!
LETTING PREVIOUS ENEMIES COMMAND OUR MEN SO READILY...!
THE KUSHAN ARE NOT NECESSARILY MONOLITHIC.
THEY ARE AN EMPIRE COMPRISING ONE ROYAL HOUSE OVER VARIOUS LESSER HOUSES...
...AND MANY GRUDGES EXIST AMONG THEM.
BUT... WHAT ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF MIDLAND?!
CITIES... HOUSES... THE BITTERNESS OF THOSE WITH SLAIN PARENTS AND BROTHERS...!!
THUS OUR REASON FOR EXPOSING THEM TO THE BRUNT OF BATTLE THREE TIMES. OUR BITTERNESS DOES NOT SOON VANISH, BUT THEIR OFFENSES ARE JUDGED.
AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, PUTTING THEM IN HARM'S WAY ON THE FRONT LINES MEANS WE CAN SURELY REDUCE CASUALTIES AMONG OUR BRETHREN. THUS, LESS TEARS SHED BY OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

I SEE YOUR LOGIC, BUT I *CAN'T* ABIDE IT!
RIDING STIRRUP TO STIRRUP WITH THE ENEMIES WHO STOLE MY HOMELAND...! MY FAMILY...!
THOUGH TWO PEOPLE HOLD A GRUDGE, IN THE END THEY ARE THE SAME... HUMAN.
I EXPECT, IF YOU MAKE YOUR PLACE IN THIS BAND...
...YOU WILL COME TO KNOW THAT YOUR FORMER ENEMIES ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM YOU.
*HM
YOU'LL ADJUST.
......
WHO'S THAT KNIGHT?
SIR LOCUS.
HE'S IN CHARGE OF TRAINING NEW RECRUITS.
*LOCUS ...?!*
YOU DON'T MEAN *THE* MOONLIGHT KNIGHT, *LOCUS?!*
HMHM...
I KNEW YOU'D BE SURPRISED. EVERY WARRIOR IS.

HE'S THE MIGHTIEST KNIGHT, BOASTING AN UNDEFEATED RECORD IN COUNTLESS DUELS AND CONTESTS WHILE CONTINUING HIS PEREGRINATION, NEVER SETTLING ON ANY ONE MASTER.
ALL SONS OF WARRIORS GROW UP HEARING BEDTIME STORIES ABOUT HIS TALES OF HEROISM.
WHY IS A LIVING LEGEND LIKE HIM HERE...?
THERE ARE OTHER FAMOUS PEOPLE HERE YOU LIKELY KNOW OF.
OTHERS?
*EHEE
I THINK THERE ARE THINGS THAT WILL SURPRISE YOU EVEN FURTHER.
AS SIR LOCUS SAYS...
...EVEN FAR MORE THAN THE KUSHAN.

THIS WAY'S A SHORT-CUT.
YO!
......
OOP!
WATCH YOUR STEP.
IT'S DIM IN HERE.
ARE *YOU* ALL RIGHT?
MM-HM.
*WHO IS THIS GIRL?*
*CAN SHE SEE THROUGH THE DARKNESS?*
SHOULD I HOLD YOUR HAND?
NO...
*AND IT SEEMS LIKE SHE KEEPS READING MY MIND... OR IS IT MY IMAGINATION?*

ザワ
*CHILL
WHAT?
WHAT'S THIS BIZARRE PRESENCE ENSHROUDING THE FOREST?
BEASTS... A WOLF PACK?!
DANGER ...!!
HEY! WA--!

WHAT THE... ?!

YOU SAW THEM IN BATTLE TODAY TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
THEY'RE ALL CALLED WAR DEMONS.
WAR DEMONS ...!!
......
*FX: HEEEERN
*FX: FLINCH
*SHRIP
*KRNCH
*SHRIP

*WHMP
!!
THAT'S MUCH BETTER THAN BEFORE.
EARLIER THEY WERE EATING KUSHAN PRISONERS.
...!
EEEK!
!
SONIA!!
Y-YOU'VE COME HERE ALONE AGAIN, GIRL?
I'M NOT ALONE. NOW PUT ME DOWN!

A-AREN'T YOU SCARED OF US?
YOU'RE AN ODD ONE.
JUST PUT ME DOWN ALREADY!
PERVERT!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU DOING?!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF--
AGHH...!!
I-I HAVEN'T TASTED HUMAN MEAT IN A LONG TIME. YOU'RE A BIT TOO THIN, THOUGH.
I'LL TELL ON YOU TO LORD GRIFFITH. RIGHT HERE AND NOW.
HEE...!
Q-QUIT IT...!
CLACK

!
GRUNBELD ...!!
*WRNCH
*GYAW!
*FX: TMP

*FX: VNN
*FX: DOSH
*GWOOO
*ZHA
IRVINE...

THESE ARE GUESTS OF OUR MASTER.
TOUCH THEM AND YOU WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH ME.
I-IT WAS A JOKE! I WAS JUST PLAYING...
I DISLIKE JOKES.
GRUNBELD. I KNOW THAT NAME...!
THE GIANT HERO FROM A NORTHERN COUNTRY WHO PROTECTED HIS LAND FROM THE CHUDER EMPIRE'S INVASION FOR A DECADE WITH ONLY HIS PERSONAL FORCE OF 3000 SOLDIERS.
HIS FIERY RED HAIR AND REPUTATION FOR MOWING DOWN ENEMIES EARNED HIM THE NICKNAME "GREAT FLAME DRAGON."
I COULD'VE SWORN I HEARD HE DIED IN BATTLE...
THANKS, SIR GRUNBELD.
NOT AT ALL.

BUT YOU ARE DEFENSELESS, MISS SONIA.
THOUGH YOU ARE THE HAWKS' MEDIUM, TO WALK AROUND *HERE* WITHOUT A GUARDIAN...
WHAT USE WOULD A GUARD BE AGAINST WAR DEMONS?
THE HAWKS' MEDIUM ...?
THE NEXT TIME YOU COME HERE, PLEASE INFORM ME.
OKAY.
THE HAWK AWAITS BEYOND THERE.
*FX: OMMMM
NEXT TIME I'LL BRING YOU A CORPSE, OUR SECRET.
R-REALLY? I'D LIKE A WOMAN...
*FX: WHISPER
MISS SONIA...
*FX: TURN
WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY?
HMMM ...
I'M NOT EXACTLY CERTAIN MYSELF.
ARE THEY...
... HUMAN ?
AHH...
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND EVENTUALLY.

WHEN COMPARED TO THAT BUNCH, THE KUSHAN DEFINITELY DO SEEM A LOT MORE SIMILAR TO US.
AT LEAST IT ENDS WITH US JUST HATING EACH OTHER AS HUMANS.
BUT **THOSE** SOLDIERS ...
SOMETHING'S FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT.
IT WAS LIKE BEING A SHEEP WANDERING INTO A PACK OF WOLVES.
A UNILATERAL... **FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN.**
A MYSTERIOUS INHUMAN BAND OF SOLDIERS.
HEROES KNOWN THE WORLD OVER. AND...
...THE BAND OF THE HAWK.
WHAT **IS** THIS PLACE ...?

.......
ゴク
I HAVE BROUGHT LORD GRIFFITH'S GUEST.
...

*FX: GULP

WINGS OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS: END

# THE NIGHT OF FALLING STARS
# 星降る夜

WHAT'RE THOSE... ?!
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO DIED IN BATTLE TODAY.
IN THE TWILIGHT AFTER BATTLE, THEY GATHER AROUND LORD GRIFFITH.

THE DEAD...?!
SOULS...?!
THEY'RE PRETTYYY...
......
!
WHO ARE THEY?
KINDRED AND LOVERS OF THE WAR DEAD.

THEY'VE COME TO SAY THEIR FINAL FARE-WELLS.
HEYYY, WHERE'S DAD?
DAD!
DEAR...
BE WELL...
DEAR ...

IT'S OVER.
*FX: TMP TMP TMP
タタタ
LORD GRIF-FIIITH!
ガバッ
*GLOMP

YOU DID WELL TODAY, SONIA.
*EHEHE!* 'TWAS NOTHIN'.
IT'S LIKE WITH *YOU* HERE, MY POWER GETS A LOT STRONGER, LORD GRIFFITH.
THAT CLUSTER OF LIGHTS...
WHERE...
...EXACTLY...
...DID IT GO?

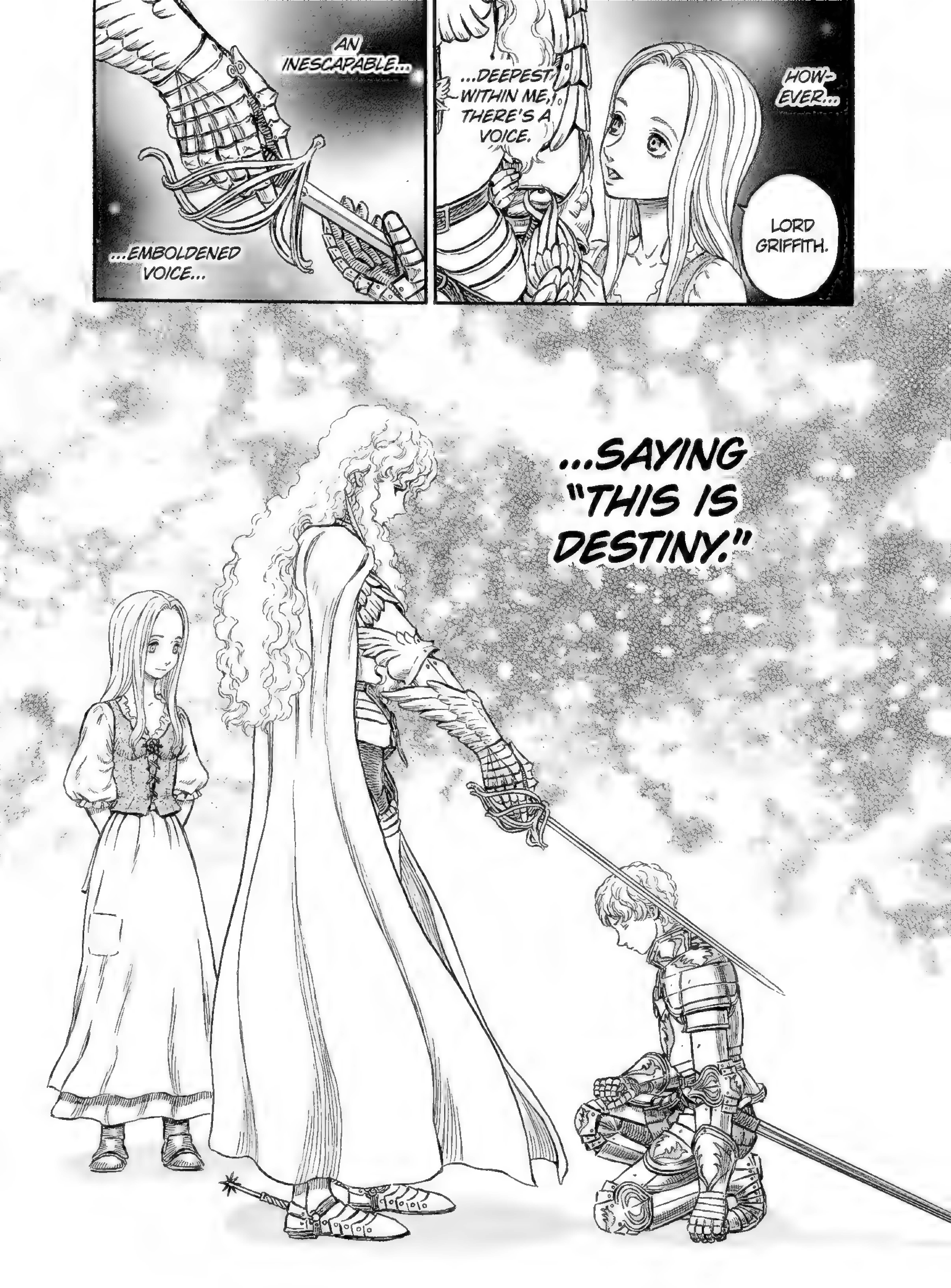
TO WHERE THEY WILL BECOME *ONE.*
BECOME ONE...
WHERE IS THAT...?
HEAVEN ...OR ELSE...
SOMEDAY YOU'LL KNOW.
THAT TIME COMES FOR EVERYONE.

*GCHAK
ガチャ!
THIS IS OUR FIRST MEETING, LORD MULE.
I AM GRIFFITH, THE LEADER OF THIS BAND OF THE HAWK.
GRIFFITH...!! THEN THIS MAN REALLY IS...
...THE WHITE HAWK!!
F-FORGIVE MY HESITATION! I AM MULE WOLFLAME, YOUNGEST SON OF THE LORD OF LUMIAS, VALAGAR WOLFLAME!
WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TOWARD YOUR RESCUING MY RETAINERS AND SUBJECTS IN THE BATTLE EARLIER!

I MUST BE THE ONE TO OFFER THANKS. THE PROVISIONS YOU DELIVERED WILL ALLOW US TO FIGHT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.
A VOICE THAT SOUNDS INVIGORATING.
AS A WAR HERO I HAD IMAGINED HIM TO BE A MUSCULAR, GOOD-LOOKING MAN...
W-WE ARE HARDLY WORTHY.
BUT HE DOESN'T **SEEM** LIKE A MAN... OR EVEN HUMAN...
ドクッ
BUT THAT ASIDE, WHAT IS THIS? THESE FEELINGS THAT ROSE UP...
...JUST AS I SET EYES ON HIM?
ドクッ
THIS WELLING UP OF...?
...??

*FX: THDUMP THDUMP

チャ
*CHAK
PLEASE, I ASK YOU TO ACCEPT THIS SWORD.
PLEASE ...
WHAT AM I DOING...?!
WITH THIS MAN...
...I'VE JUST MET AND WITH WHOM I'VE HARDLY EXCHANGED A WORD?

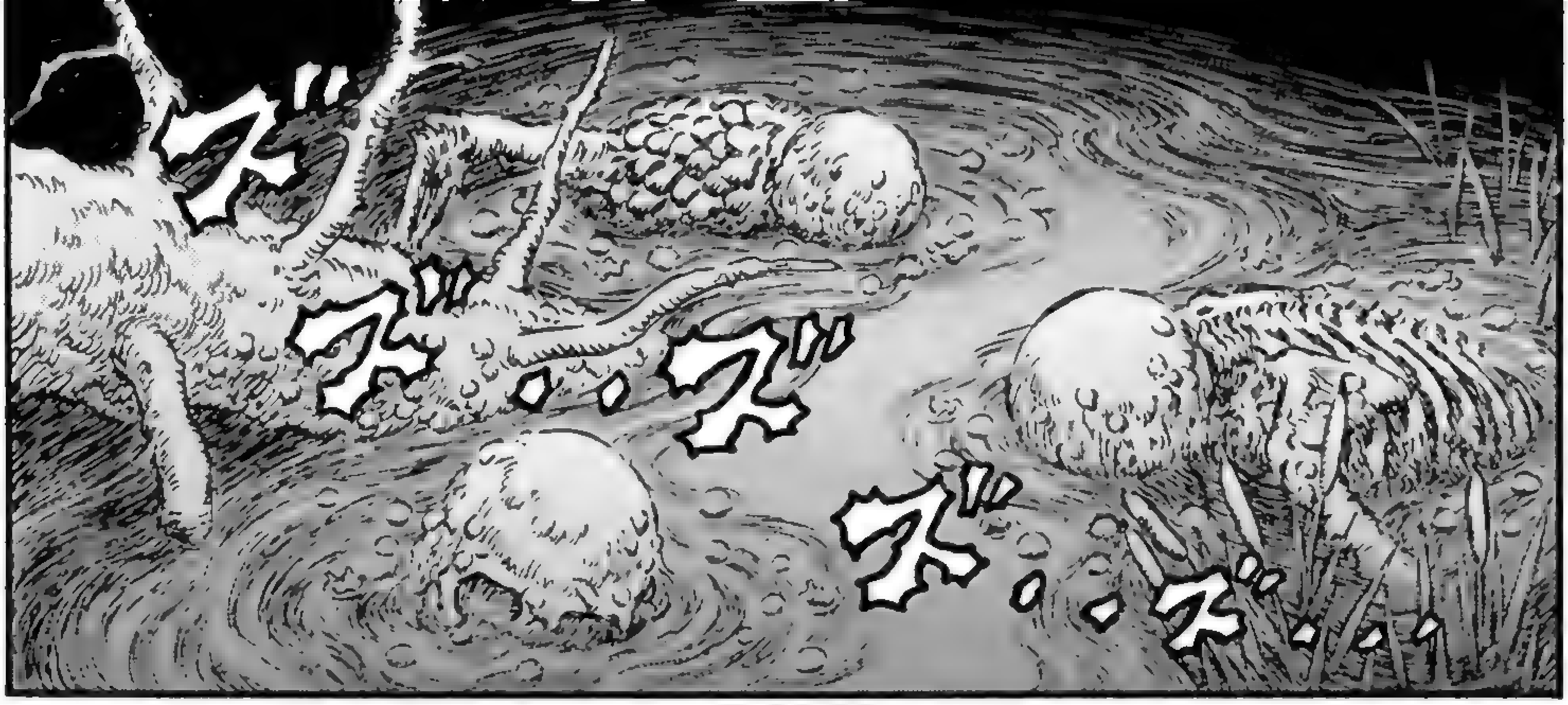

HOW-EVER...
...DEEPEST WITHIN ME, THERE'S A VOICE.
LORD GRIFFITH.
AN INESCAPABLE...
...EMBOLDENED VOICE...
...SAYING "THIS IS DESTINY."

*FX: KRRRN
キリリッ
QUIET.

YOU MUSTN'T SPOIL THE MOMENT.
*SHHHH
*FX: ZSSH
*FX: BOSH
I KNEW IT BY INSTINCT.
THAT WHAT I HAD SET BEFORE MYSELF WASN'T MERELY ANOTHER WAR TO BE RECORDED IN HISTORY.

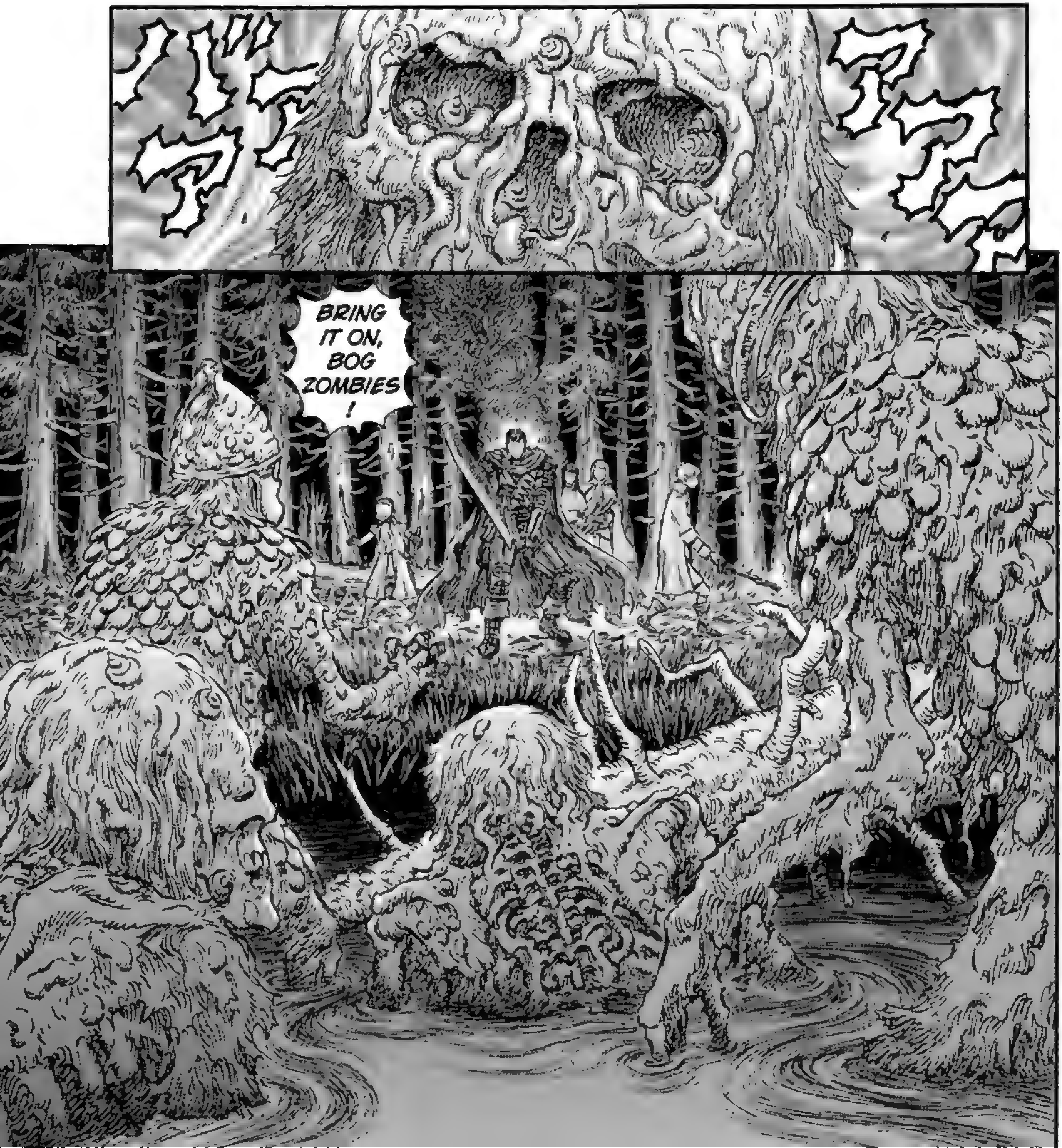
PERHAPS IT BELONGED...
...TO THE DOMAIN OF LEGEND.

*FX: BLOP BLOP
THEY'RE COMIN' OUT, ISIDRO!
I GOT IT!
LADY FARNESE!
PLEASE DO NOT LET THAT FIRE DIE!
I... I KNOW THAT!
*FX. REEL
NO, CASCA! YOU MUSTN'T WANDER AROUND!
AUU!
HERE THEY COME!!



*FX: ZMZMZMZM

*FX: GRAHHHHH


アアア
バァ
BRING IT ON, BOG ZOMBIES!

Now you shall teach them the power of Elf Dimension Style!
No, I shan't.

# LIKE A BABY

# 嬰児の如く（みどりご）

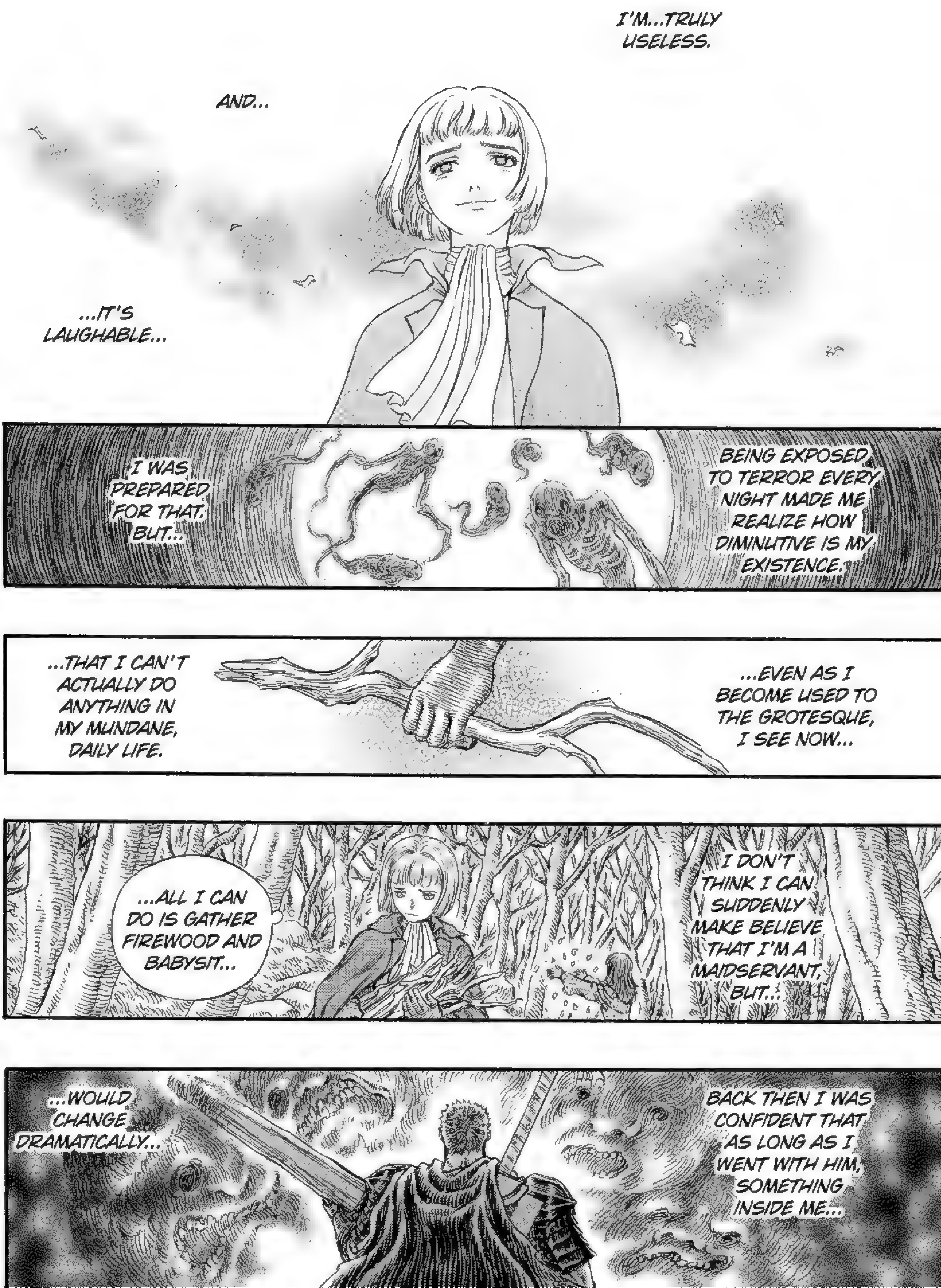
ヒュウウゥ…
*FX: HHHHH
スチャ。
*POSE
グッ…
*FX: SQUEEZE
ぜりゃ
ああ
*ZERYAHHH

すぱああんん!!
*WHAAACK!!
MMM, GOOD!
ずず…
*SLRRP
I AM MUCH OBLIGED.

I TRIED USING THE FOX MARROW FROM YESTERDAY.
YOU DO GOOD WORK, SERPY.
HNN WHYYY?!
THINK A LITTLE. AT YOUR HEIGHT, WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF YOU USE AN OVERHEAD STRIKE AGAINST AN ADULT?
I AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME. I'LL TEACH YOU THE BASICS AND SPAR WITH YOU, BUT THE REST IS UP TO YOU.
*TMP TMP
IF YOU WANT TO GET GOOD AT KILLIN', FIRST USE YOUR HEAD AND THINK FOR YOURSELF.
NOT THINKIN' ON THE BATTLEFIELD'LL GET YOU DEAD REAL QUICK.
AND WHAT IF YOU BEAT ME STUPID FIRST?
YOU WHACKED THE HELL OUTTA ME
I WANT TO SEASON IT A BIT MORE, BUT WE ARE STARTING TO RUN OUT.
YEAH, YOU'RE LIKELY TO NEED SALT AFTER EXERTION.
DROPEY, FOOD'S ALMOST READY, SO GO CALL FARNY AND CASCA. THEY'RE GATHERIN' FIREWOOD OVER THERE.
YOU GUYS'VE SURE GOTTEN DOMESTICATED.
GO DO IT YOURSELF.

カサ。
*KSAAA
カサ。
......
LADY FARNESE, THESE...
MUSH-ROOMS. I FOUND THEM EARLIER.
*FX: VMMMM
THESE ARE POISONOUS. YOU CANNOT EAT THEM! THIS ONE'S A WARAITAKE.
I-IS THAT SO?
NOT TO WORRY, I WILL TAKE OVER... THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE.
ひく ひく ひく
しびびび
*FX: SEEEIZE
*FX: HIC HIC HIC
THAT'S THE WAY. RUB IT HARD AGAINST THE ROCK.
R-RIGHT.
ゴシ ゴシ。
*SCRUB SCRUB
AGHHH!! MY BEST SHIRT!!
I WILL DO THE REST.
ボロ。
*TATTER
...

バオオオオオ
BURRR!!
*FX: BAOHHHH
ボッ
*FX: FWSSH
UWAHHHH!!
AH...
HE'S ON FIRE...
YOWWWW!
WHY'M I THE ONLY ONE?!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
FORGET IT-- YOU JUST CONCENTRATE ON CASCA AND THE FIRE!!
*HHH
へぁ。。


I'M...TRULY USELESS.
AND...
...IT'S LAUGHABLE...
BEING EXPOSED TO TERROR EVERY NIGHT MADE ME REALIZE HOW DIMINUTIVE IS MY EXISTENCE.
I WAS PREPARED FOR THAT. BUT...
...EVEN AS I BECOME USED TO THE GROTESQUE, I SEE NOW...
...THAT I CAN'T ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING IN MY MUNDANE, DAILY LIFE.
I DON'T THINK I CAN SUDDENLY MAKE BELIEVE THAT I'M A MAIDSERVANT, BUT...
...ALL I CAN DO IS GATHER FIREWOOD AND BABYSIT...
BACK THEN I WAS CONFIDENT THAT AS LONG AS I WENT WITH HIM, SOMETHING INSIDE ME...
...WOULD CHANGE DRAMATICALLY...

......
ザッ ザッ
I DID SOME TERRIBLY CRUEL THINGS TO YOU...
I APOLOGIZE.
AA AA!
WANTING TO DECORATE YOURSELF MAJESTICALLY...
THAT LOOKS LIKE FUN. MAY I?
...AND OPPRESS ANOTHER IS UNDERSTANDABLE, UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS...
I HAVE BEEN...
...SO SMALL.

*FX: ZHAAA

...
CASCA, PLEASE WAIT HERE A MINUTE.
*SMP
HNN...
THIS WAY...
...I CAN HELP WITH FOOD...
HUH?
THAT'S ODD.
COME HERE!
OH, WELL...
I'D BETTER HEAD BACK... THE SUN IS SETTING.

*FX: SHA

*FX: SNF SNF

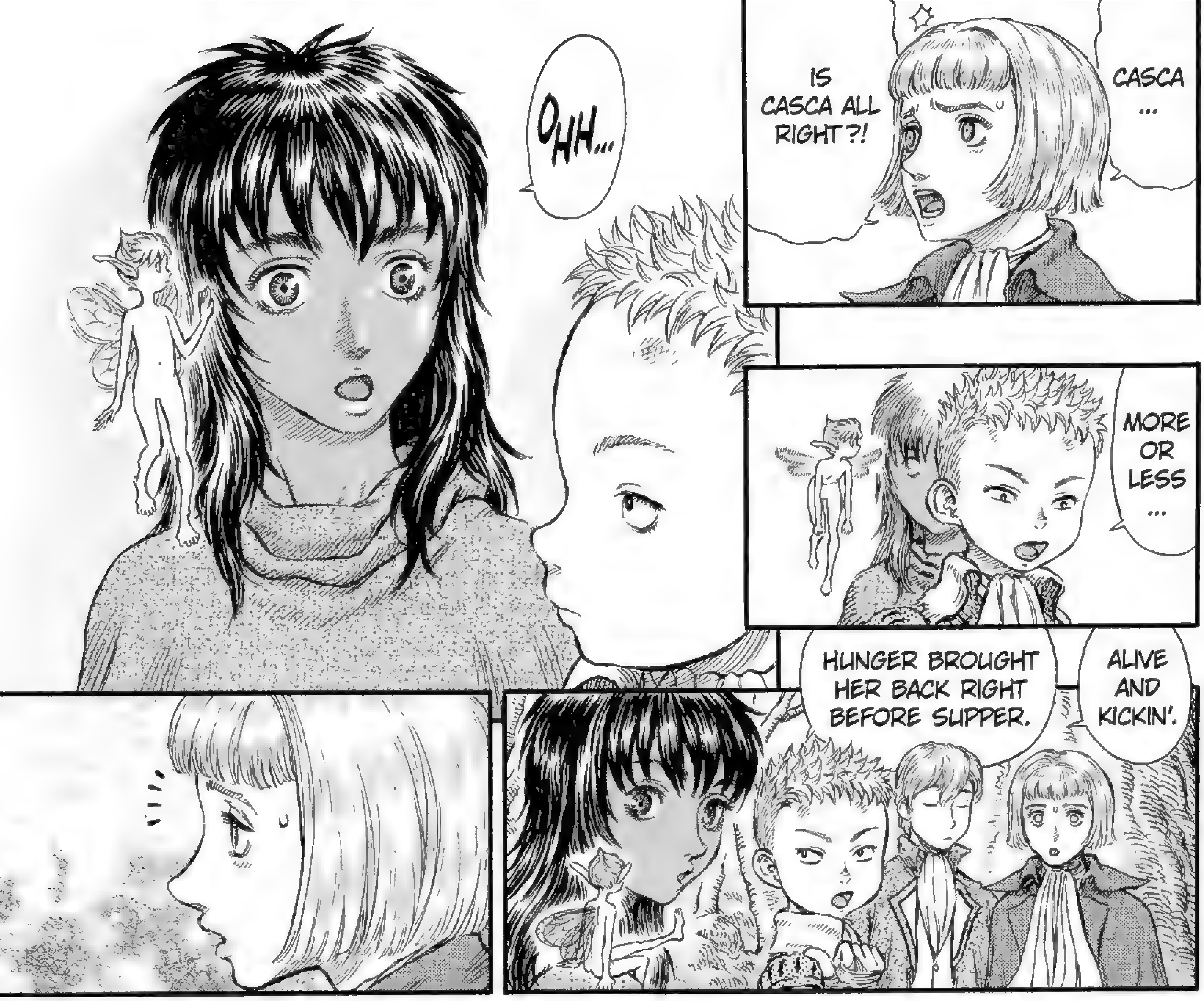
*FX: SFF SFF

OKAY.
LET US RETURN, CASCA.
..........
..........
CASCA ...?
*FX: THUD
ドサッ
CASCA !!
OH, NO...!!
IF THE SUN SETS BEFORE I--
SHE'S ...
SHE'S MY RESPONSIBILITY !!

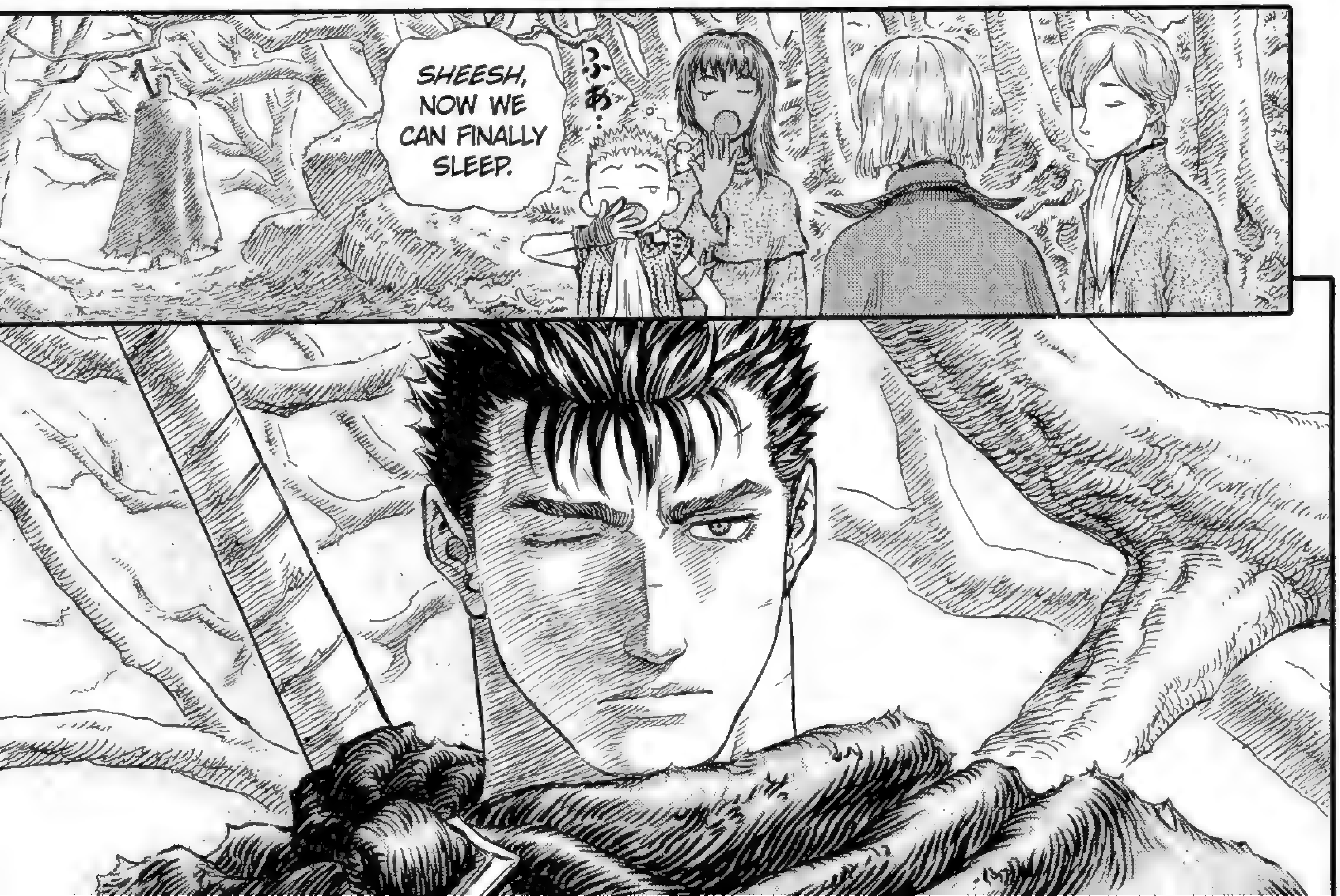
CASCAAAA...!
ANSWER ME...!
NOW I DON'T KNOW THE WAY BACK...
ザァァ..ァ...
*FX: ZHAAAA
バサ
*FLAP
ビクッ
*FX: FLINCH
バサ
*FLAP
ドクン
ドクン
*FX: THDUMP THDUMP

DARKNESS THAT BEARS DOWN.
IT'S LIKE I'VE FALLEN INTO A DEEP, DEEP ABYSS...
CAS...
SOMEBODY...
SERPICO ...
I CAN NO LONGER MOVE.
JUST COWER.
COWER AND BE SMALL...

OH!
FOUND HER!
HEYYY!
OVER HERE!
......
LADY FARNESE, YOU'RE SAFE...!!
CAN YOU STAND?
GEEZ, TALK ABOUT CARELESS.
LAST NIGHT WAS NO PICNIC. EVEN SERPICO RAN OFF TO LOOK FOR YOU.
THANKS TO THAT, IT WAS JUST ME AND GUTS STRUGGLIN' TO PROTECT CASCA.


CASCA ...
IS CASCA ALL RIGHT?!
OHH...
MORE OR LESS ...
ALIVE AND KICKIN'.
HUNGER BROUGHT HER BACK RIGHT BEFORE SUPPER.

*FX: FWAHH


ふあ…
SHEESH, NOW WE CAN FINALLY SLEEP.

DON'T COST US SO MUCH TIME.
WHADDA WE DO IF THE BABYSITTER GOES MISSIN'?
……….
ボ
SERPICO.
YES?
……
じょぼぼぼ。

*FX: ZONE

*FX: BESH BESH

*PLSHHH

I AM A BURDEN.
バシャーッ
WHAT'S WRONG ?
NO-THING...
バチャ
バチャ
.........
SHALL WE GO BACK...
...TO THE HOLY CITY ?

*FX: PLISH PLISH

*FX: PLASSH

I NEVER...
...SAID THAT.
IF I GO BACK...
...I'LL BECOME BURIED AGAIN.
HOWEVER POWERLESS...
...HELPLESS, AND CLUMSY...
ギュ…
*CLUTCH
...FOR THE FIRST TIME...
...I'M DISCOVERING MYSELF.
......

*BAAA
*BAAA
YEAH, IF YOU WANNA REACH THE SEA AND AVOID PEOPLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, TAKE THIS OLD HIGHWAY OVER THE MOUNTAIN PASS.
*MUMBLE
SHOULD I STRIKE FROM BELOW?
*BAAA
*BAAA
NOT WANTIN' TO BE SEEN BY PEOPLE MUST MEAN YOU'VE GOT SOME REASON...
...BUT YOU ALL'RE HEADED FOR THE PORT OF VRITANNIS? THEN YOU'D BEST BE CAREFUL.
BAAA! BAAA!
STOP THAT.
SOMETHING THERE?
LUNGING, THEN?
GIVE THAT UP AND STICK WITH ELF DIMENSION STYLE.
*MUMBLE
IT'S BECOMIN' THE MILITARY BASE FOR SEVERAL ALLIED COUNTRIES.
I HEAR ARMIES FROM THE LANDS UNDER THE HOLY SEE KEEP GATHERIN'.
LOOKS MORE AND MORE LIKE A BIG WAR AGAINST THE KUSHAN'S GONNA START.

WITH THE KING DEAD AND HIS ONLY CHILD, THE PRINCESS, MISSIN', MIDLAND HAS NO REAL RULER.
EVEN IF THE ALLIED FORCES DRIVE OUT THE KUSHAN, THE TERRITORY'LL BE CARVED UP REAL GOOD.
IF IT GOES BADLY, THE KINGDOM ITSELF'LL DISAPPEAR. ANYHOW, IT'S NO CONCERN OF SHEPHERDS LIKE US.
DISAPPEAR...
MIDLAND ...?
WHAT A PITY.
ARE YOU A MIDLANDER, SON?
......
NO...
I JUST TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THEIR HOSPITALITY SOME...
...A LONG TIME AGO.

AHH! OH, YEAH...
I FORGOT.
IF YOU'RE GOIN' THAT WAY, WATCH OUT.
'SPECIALLY 'ROUND THE MOUNTAIN PASS.
WHAT, OLD MAN?!
BANDITS OR SOMETHIN'?!
BETTER IF IT WERE.
BUT IT *AIN'T* HUMANS UP THERE.
IT'S *TROLLS.*

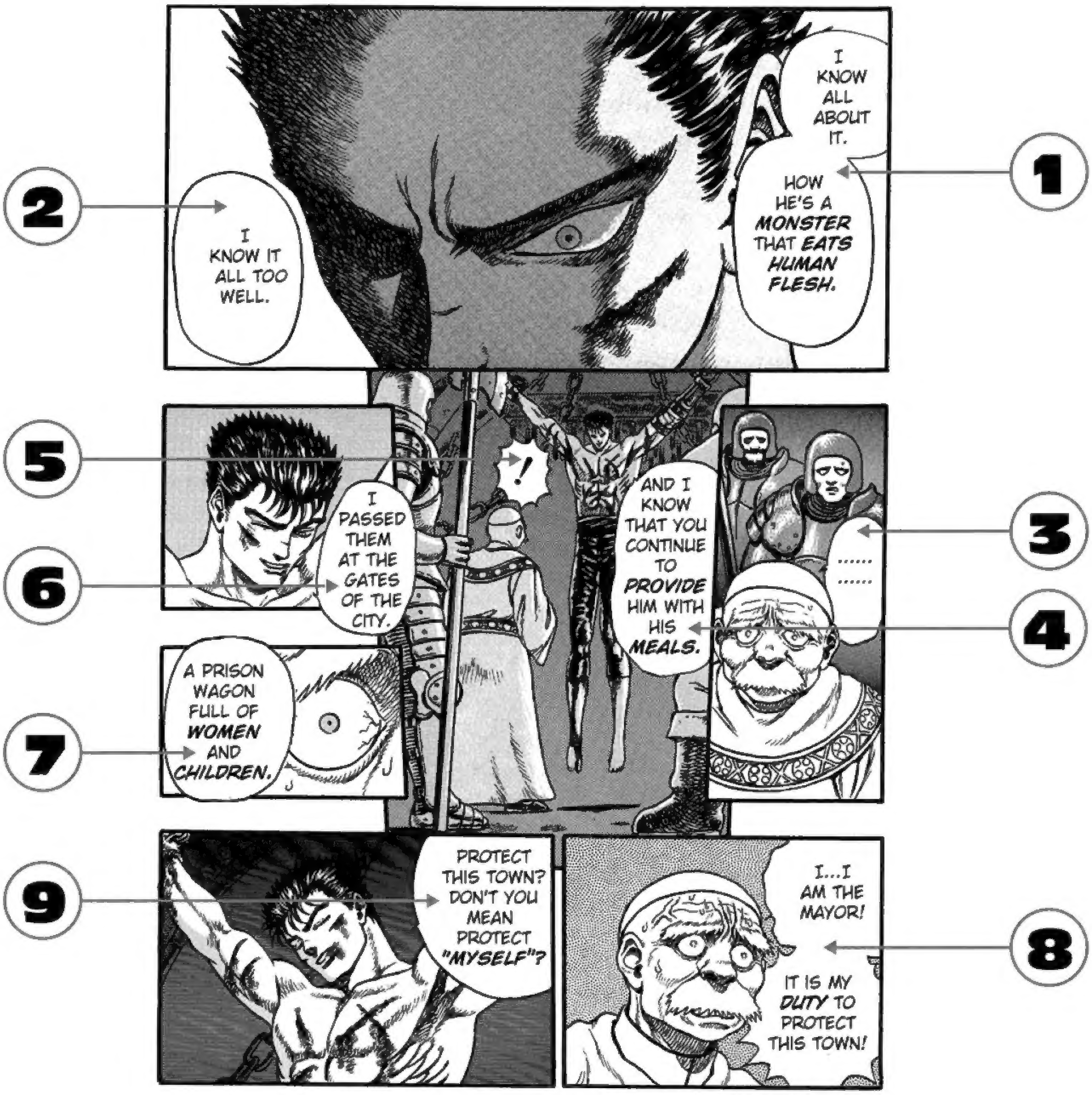
*FX: BAAA BAAA

*FX: BAAA BAAA

# STOP

## This is the back of the book!

**This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!**


1
I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT. HOW HE'S A MONSTER THAT EATS HUMAN FLESH.
2
I KNOW IT ALL TOO WELL.
3
...... ......
4
AND I KNOW THAT YOU CONTINUE TO PROVIDE HIM WITH HIS MEALS.
5
!
6
I PASSED THEM AT THE GATES OF THE CITY.
7
A PRISON WAGON FULL OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
8
I...I AM THE MAYOR! IT IS MY DUTY TO PROTECT THIS TOWN!
9
PROTECT THIS TOWN? DON'T YOU MEAN PROTECT "MYSELF"?

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

# BERSERK

**KENTARO MIURA**

**23**

ベルセルク
三浦建太郎

Desperate as Guts, the Black Swordsman, has been to reunite with his former captain and lover, the now-mad Casca, he's quickly learning that being together is as dangerous as being apart. What should be a simple journey to the safety of Puck's homeland proves to be a gauntlet of perils, as the Mark of Sacrifice each bears brings the fury of Hell down upon them, and Guts discovers that in his darkest moments he himself is the greatest danger to the woman he loves.

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is a fiery manga apocalypse, an ominous omnibus of furious action, fearsome horror, and funereal humor that strikes a power chord in the hearts of its devoted followers and strikes down the rest like a scythe through wheat. Bring in the sheaves!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.

DARK HORSE MANGA

FOR READERS 18+
FOR MATURE READERS